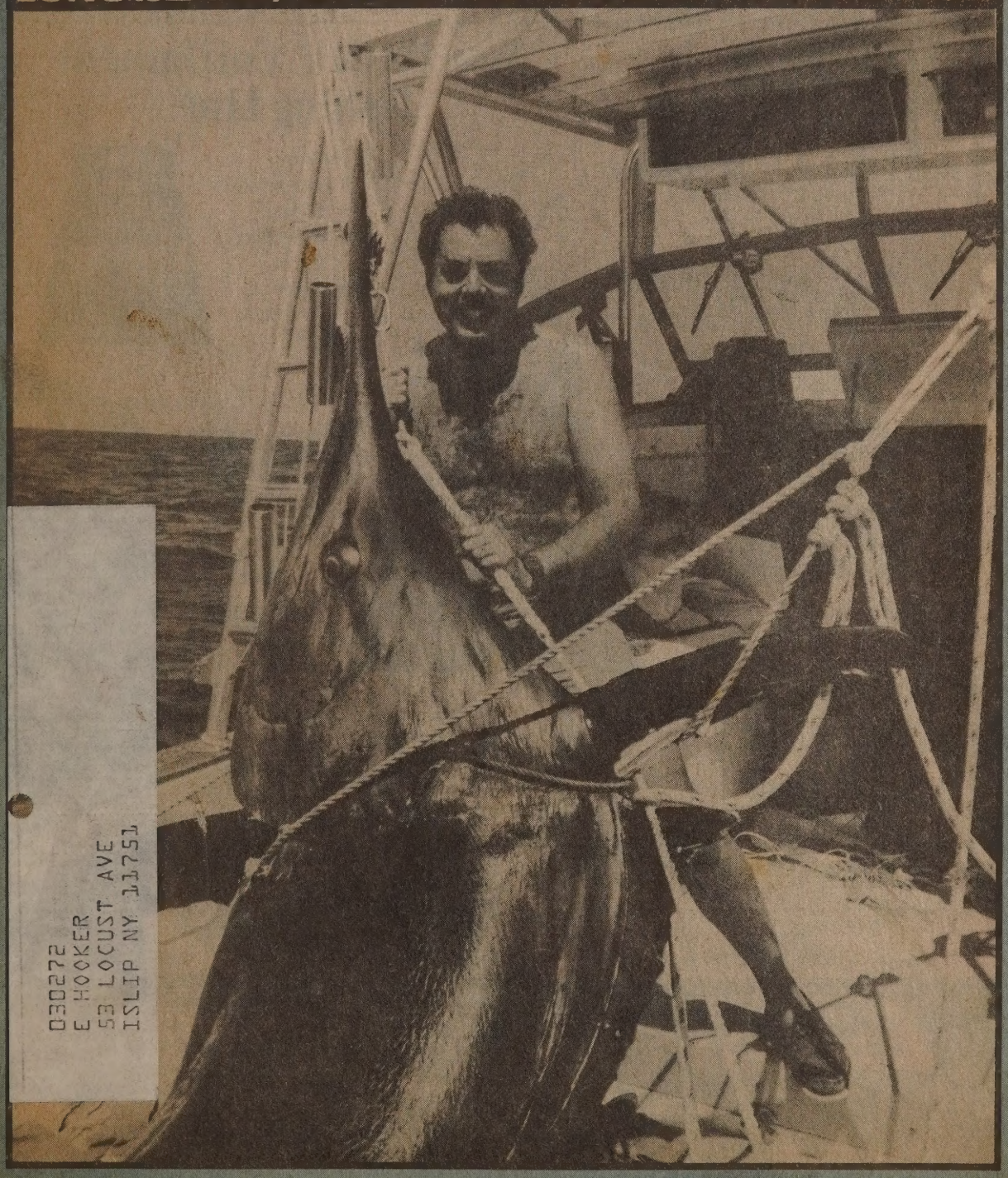
October 8th—October 14th, 1987, No. 41 75¢

THE Fisherman

LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION



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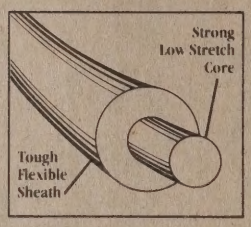

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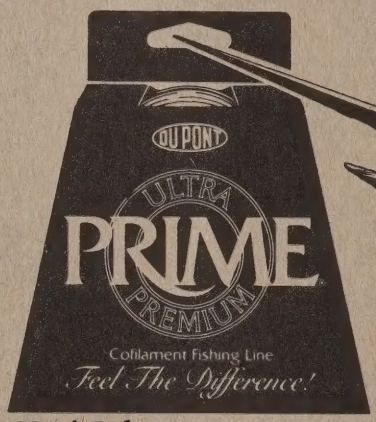

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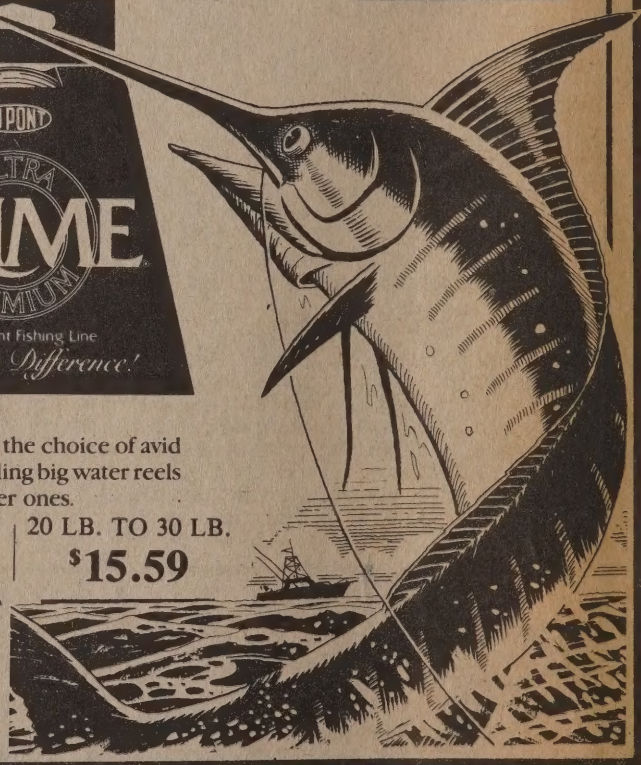

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THE Fisherman

LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION

Volume 22, Number 41 October 8th, 1987

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ABOUT THE COVER:

Frank Egitto is dwarfed by the monster blue marlin he boated during this years running of the Capt. Bill Invitational Tuna and Marlin Tournament. The huge billfish weighed in at 921½ Lbs. and is a pending 50 Lb. class world record. The current record holder is an 832 Lb. blue. Frank's son Brian did the boat handling while Mike Donavon handled the wire aboard the Egitto's "Sea Duck."

There is an important hearing concerning billfish management scheduled for October 20th. Complete details are on page 4.

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The LONG ISLAND FISHERMAN is published weekly, except for two weeks in December by the L.I.F. Publishing Corporation, L.I.F. Building, Bridge Street, P.O. Box 1994, Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963. Telephone: 516-725-4200. Second Class Postage paid at Sag Harbor, New York. $.75 per copy, back issues $1. Subscriptions: 50 issues, $17.50; 100 Issues, $33. Photographs and written contributions are welcomed. Unsolicited contributions become the property of The Long Island Fisherman. All contributions to be returned must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. All consideration will be given to these requests, however, no responsibility on our part is assumed. Notice of change of address must include both new and old addresses and sent to the Main Office. Allow two to four weeks for change. USPS 588-160.

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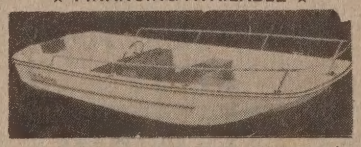
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BILLFISH HEARINGS

The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council will hold a series of public hearings and provide a comment period to solicit public input into the proposed Billfish Fishery Management Plan. Various measures to conserve and manage the resource will be discussed.

The Billfish Fishery Management Plan was prepared jointly by the Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, New England, Gulf and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils. It establishes a management regime for Atlantic billfishes throughout the Atlantic, Gulf and Caribbean Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) of the U.S. The species addressed by this plan are the sailfish, *Istiophorus platypterus*; the white marlin, *Tetrapterus albidus*; the blue marlin, *Makaira nigricans*; and the longbill spearfish, *Tetrapterus pfleugeri*.

The directed fishery for billfish in the U.S. is almost entirely recreational, using conventional rod and reel. There is a small scale, traditional handline troll fishery in the vicinity of Puerto Rico that has a small catch of billfishes. There is a small, regional harpoon fishery for white marlin off southern New England. In addition, longliners, both domestic and foreign, have an incidental catch of billfish.

Optimum yield in the billfish fishery is defined as the greatest number of billfish that can be caught by the recreational fishery in the EEZ considering the biological limitations of the stocks and the unavoidable incidental catches in other fisheries.

The objectives of the plan are to:

1. Maintain the highest availability of billfishes to the U.S. recreational fishery.

2. Optimize the social and economic benefits to the nation by reserving the billfish resource for its traditional use, which on the continental U.S. is almost entirely a recreational fishery. In the Caribbean, the fishery is both a recreational and small scale handline fishery where billfishes are used as food.

3. Increase understanding of the condition of the billfish stocks and the billfish fishery.

On the basis of data presented in the plan and in the Source Document, it is concluded that the greatest overall benefit to the nation will result from reserving, to the extent possible, billfish occurring in the EEZ, for the U.S. recreational fishery. Consquently, only traditional recreational fishing gear; i.e., rod and reel, may be used in a directed fishery for billfishes in the Atlantic, Gulf and Caribbean EEZs.

To ensure that a commercial market for billfishes does not develop, thus thwarting the objectives of this plan, the sale of all species of billfishes in the management unit is prohibited with the exception of the small by-catch of the small scale handline fishery in Puerto Rico. This measure applies to imports as well as billfishes caught by domestic vessels fishing outside the EEZ.

The U.S. recreational fishery currently releases approximately 50 percent of its catch. However, to ensure that most billfishes are released so that they may remain available to the recreational fishery, minimum size limits are imposed for each species (except spearfish whose rarity in the fishery makes this unnecessary). These size limits are 30 pounds for sailfish, 50 pounds for white marlin and 200 pounds for blue marlin and are based on reducing angler retention beyond its present level by an additional 30 percent, 50 percent and 50 percent, respectively. This measure will allow competitive fishing tournaments to continue while still significantly reducing this source of billfish mortality.

To ensure that the maximum number of billfishes are made available to the recreational fishery, retention of billfishes by commercial longline and drift net (gill or entanglement net) vessels is prohibited. All billfishes caught by domestic longliners must be released by cutting the line near the hook without removing the fish from the water.

The dates, time and location of the public hearings are scheduled as follows:

October 12th: 7PM, Holiday Inn, 39th and Oceanfront, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

October 13th: 7PM, Holiday Inn, Route 13, Salisbury, Maryland.

October 15th: 7PM, South Wall Fire Co., Route 34 and Atlantic Avenue, Wall Township, New Jersey.

October 20th: 7PM, Holiday Inn, 3845 Veterans Memorial Highway, Ronkonkoma, New York.

Individuals and organizations may comment in writing to the Council if they are unable to attend the hearings. The public comment period will close November 22, 1987. All written comments should be addressed to John C. Bryson, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Room 2115 Federal Building, 300 South New Street, Dover, DE 19901-6790.

For further information contact: John C. Bryson, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Room 2115 Federal Building, 300 South New Street, Dover, DE 19901-6790, (302) 674-2331; or Robert K. Mahood, Executive Director, South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, One Southpark Circle, Suite 306, Charleston, SC 29407-4699; (803) 571-4366.

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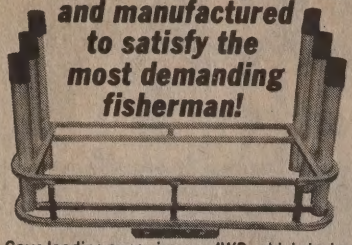

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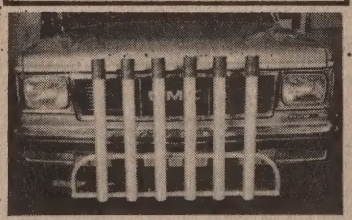

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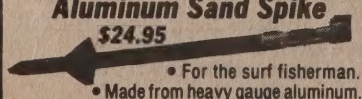

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NEW YORK SURF FISHING CONTEST

Period Ending August 31, 1987
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CLUB STANDINGS—

CLUB	BASS	BLUE	WEAK	TOTAL
1. Patchogue Fishing Club	713	466	199	1378
2. Mid-Island Surfcasters	630	476	194	1300
3. High Hill Striper Club	538	441	222	1201
4. East End Surf Fishing	709	343	100	1152
5. Gateway Striper Club	504	517	83	1104
6. Striper Surf Club	622	360	7	989
7. Hampton Surf Club	570	335	44	949
8. Farragut Striper Club	375	281	138	794
9. Paumonok Surfcasters	202	430	119	751
10. Long Island Surf Fishers	151	320	166	637
11. Great South Bay Anglers	174	86	9	269
12. Sunrise Anglers	0	16	0	16

MOST POINTS OVERALL—Individual Top 20

ANGLER	CLUB	BASS	BLUE	WEAK	TOTAL
1. J. Colby	PFC	462	232	34	728
2. J. Paduano	EES	223	324	9	556
3. J. McKay	GSC	233	232	26	491
4. M. Sarro	SSC	249	204	0	453
5. W. Kowal	HSC	263	45	0	308
S. Leonard	PS	109	150	49	308
6. R. Lucchesi	MIS	109	63	73	245
7. O. Van Helmond	PFC	67	103	37	207
8. J. LoManaco, Jr.	GSC	122	69	8	199
9. J. Bernard	FSC	113	36	46	195
10. R. Glauda	MIS	140	20	33	193
11. R. Koester	LISA	29	52	111	192
12. K. Kassan	FSC	120	16	54	190
13. J. Tan	FSC	25	163	0	188
14. T. Krezenski	HSC	64	80	18	162
15. E. Phillips	MIS	40	102	14	156
16. A. Buatti	HHS	133	19	0	152
17. J. Kelly	LISA	11	130	10	151
18. J. Augeri	GSC	44	66	37	147
19. C. Hardman	GSBA	112	24	9	145
20. M. Borucke	HSC	101	43	0	144
J. Marsala	PS	16	108	20	144

HEAVIEST STRIPED BASS—Individual Entry

ANGLER	WEIGHT	CLUB
1. P. Cilento	51 pounds, 0 ounces	PFC
2. J. Paulsen	46 pounds, 0 ounces	EES
3. M. Sarro	45 pounds, 0 ounces	SSC

HEAVIEST BLUEFISH—Individual Entry

ANGLER	WEIGHT	CLUB
1. R. Lucchesi	18 pounds, 3 ounces	MIS
2. R. Perlow	16 pounds, 5 ounces	HSC
3. M. Borucke	15 pounds, 15 ounces	HSC

HEAVIEST WEAKFISH—Individual Entry

ANGLER	WEIGHT	CLUB
1. K. Finn	13 pounds, 10 ounces	HHS
2. T. Booker	12 pounds, 7 ounces	GSC
3. R. Koester	12 pounds, 0 ounces	LISA

RELEASED FISH POINTS—Top 3 Clubs

1. Gateway Striper Club ..... 2331 points
2. Mid-Island Surfcasters ..... 2137 points
3. High Hill Striper Club ..... 1550 points

OUT OF STATE STRIPED BASS—Top 3 Clubs

1. Striper Surf Club ..... 492 points
2. Gateway Striper Club ..... 88 points
3. Patchogue Fishing Club ..... 35 points

WOMEN'S DIVISION—Heaviest of Species

E. Paduano -EES- Striped Bass 10 pounds, 0 ounces

CHILDREN'S DIVISION—Heaviest of Species

E. Lucchesi -MIS- Bluefish 16 pounds, 8 ounces

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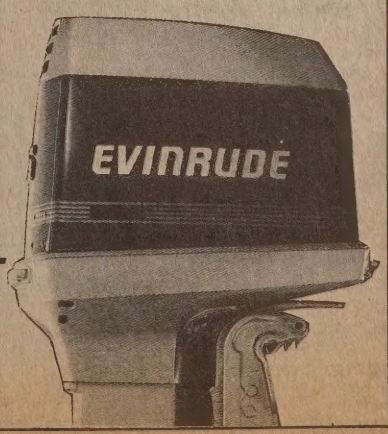

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Boats For Anglers

MAKO 261 CENTER CONSOLE

by John Raguso

Attending the 17th Annual Mako Outdoor Writers' Convention in the Florida Keys this past June allowed me to perform two acts in great detail. The first was to meet some of my fellow scribes while catching a few rays, a few fish and listening to some tall tales in the process. But more importantly for BFA readers, I was also fortunate to spend a full week putting Mako Marine's new 261 CC through a gauntlet of radical paces in some "real-life" sea conditions.

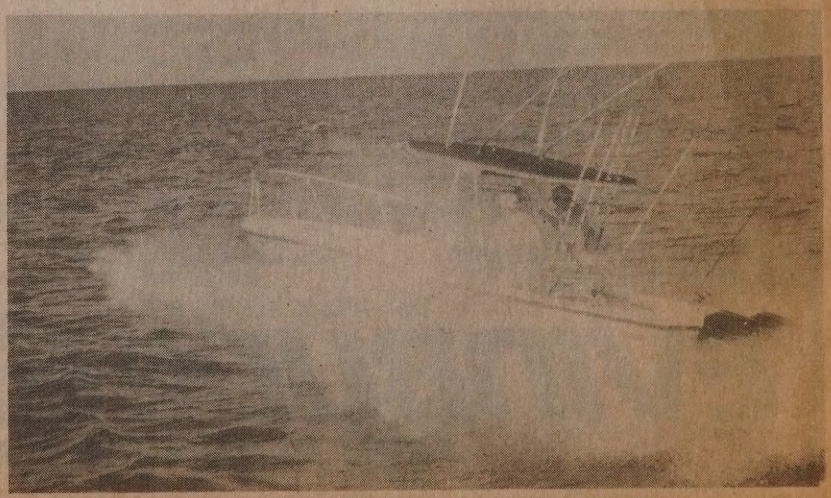
Although a genetic offspring of the older 25 CC and more recent 254 CC hulls, the 261 can be confused with no other Mako design that has preceded it. The engineers at Mako Marine have taken many of the comments and criticisms offered on prior models and have broken new ground in putting together the 261 CC.

One of the first improvements anyone familiar with the historical Mako lineup will recognize on the 261 is interior freeboard and *plenty* of it! This new chariot sports a full 34 inches of cockpit freeboard amidships forward of the console and 26.5 inch aft, where it really counts when trying to tame a large and frisky pelagic at boatside. The aft freeboard figure represnets an increase of approximately 8 inches over the specs of the 254/258 series, and for anyone in excess of 6 feet tall, it's a welcome modification. The wider 8.5 fot beam of the 261 also makes for additional usable room throughout and when combined with this hull's 26 foot centerline length, creates what seems like acres of deck and storage space fore and aft.

Another novel feature adopted by the 261 that is also found on its smaller cousin the 231 CC, is a pair of removable fishboxes built flush into the aft covering boards to port and starboard. Accessed by a flip-up hinged lid, these boxes measure 36" long by 12" wide by 14" deep (72 quart capacity) and are sturdy enough to hold up to many seasons of banging around.

Moving amidships, there is a rod locker on either side of the center console located below deck, accessed by a flush mounted hatch. Each of the two compartments is a full 8 feet long by 15 inches wide by 8 inches deep and should store a total of six fishing rods out of the salt spray. There is also horizontal rod/gaff storage to be found under each gunnel, specifically in the form of six attractive and super-functional Lee's anodized aluminum circular retainers. And if that weren't enough for most die-hards, there are four vertical PVC rod tubes situated on each side of the console, in addition to the four marinium flush-mounted gunnel holders, all standard, for a whopping total of 24 rod holders!

Going forward, two huge 53" by 18.5" by 5"x15" storage lockers are disguised as a cleverly-designed casting platform, that is raised only on the perimeter and features a step down in the center. These boxes drain on deck and will hold a ton of tackle and safety gear for the offshore enthusiasts. These bins could also double as fishboxes, should you have a banner day in the briny, but like the stern fishboxes, are not insulated. A center box



is forward and it's large enough to hold a 13 pound Danforth-type anchor.

The console on this rig has plenty of room for storing electronics out of the weather, as well as housing two complete sets of gauges to help you monitor the performance of your dual outboards. The front of the console hinges forward to reveal Mako's patent pending C-PAC system, which allows you to quickly snap-out your electronics gadgets at day's end with minimum fuss. There's also a generous amount of storage space below the front seating area that will come in handy for packing those fly gaff heads, tail ropes and the like that most blue water anglers find indispensable. The epoxy-finished heavy duty aluminum grab rail on the console's sides and top is a neat touch and provides a sturdy handhold in rough seas. Rounding out the innovative features on the 261 are recessed hydraulic trim tabs, one-piece welded aluminum bow rail, deep recessed drain channels in the cockpit that scup-out all deck water overboard even at rest and marinium cleats and chocks, all standard and all tastefully executed.

From a performance standpoint, my test boat was equipped with twin 200 hp Merc Black Max V6s, and this rig could really boogie. Top speed was 50 MPH running with a set of 14x19 S/S wheels at 5600 revs, and at more mundane speeds, the 261 still cooked prety well, getting 18.5 knots at 3000 RPM; 24.3 knots at 3500 RPM; and 29.0 knots at 4000 RPM. Mercury marketing rep Russ Barnes helped me put the big mills through the torture test, and we were even able to plane the Mako on one engine, getting 18.5 knots at 4000 revolutions, with the other motor tilted high and dry and without changing props! Fuel consumption for two long days of 30 miles out and back, with a full measure of trolling in-between, burned only 108 gal. total, so the big Mercs lived up to their reputation for being gas-miserly. You could probably get by with a pair of 150s on this hull, but while burning slightly less fuel and trimming the top end a bit, you might also sacrifice the ability of the 261 to "get up" on a single engine should you be offshore with only one working powerplant, so be advised.

As you can surmise, my overall reaction to the Mako 261 CC is quite favorable. I found the general fit and finish detail to be top shelf, and as with other Makos, the fiberglass work was first class.

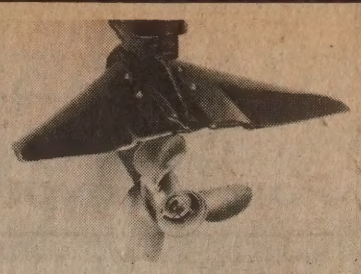
* * *

SPECIFCATIONS:

Length	26'
Beam	8'6"
Weight	3,600 pounds
Fuel Capacity	200 gallons
Maximum Horse Power	400

Manufactured by: Mako Marine 4355 NW 128th St. Miami, Fla. 33054 (305) 685-6591.

Doel-fin™



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22' CENTER CONSOLE 115hp SUZUKI
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BAJA
PETE L. WESTCHESTER PA. 8/4/87
FORCE 200 300hp MERC I/O
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BAYLINER
JAN Z. HOLYOKE MA. 7/20/87
23' SANTIAGO 198hp. MERC I/O
"IT MADE A BIG DIFFERENCE, WITH FUEL, BUTTERFISH, ICE AND 3 OR 4 PEOPLE ON BOARD I HAD TO MOVE EVERYONE TO THE BOW, THE BOAT REALLY HAD TO STRAIN TO GET ON PLANE. NOW GETTING ON PLANE IS NO PROBLEM, THE MOTOR IS NOT WORKING AS HARD, THE BOW STAYS DOWN AND THE BOAT IS MUCH MORE STABLE AT LOW SPEED. THE DOEL-FIN WORKED BETTER THAN I EVER EXPECTED. IT IS MORE THAN WORTH THE MONEY!"

BOSTON WHALER
JACQUES W. STAMFORD CT. 7/20/87
17' CENTER CONSOLE 60hp JOHNSON
"THE DOEL-FIN WORKED LIKE A CHAMP. I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT. IT DID EVERYTHING YOU PROMISED AND ON TOP OF IT THE BOAT RAN FASTER. IT'S WELL WORTH THE INVESTMENT."

CHRIS CRAFT
RALPH S. NEW YORK NY. 7/21/87
24' SCORPION 260hp MERC I/O
"I LIKE IT. THE BOAT DOESN'T BOW STEER IN A FAST TURN, I CAN HAVE LOTS OF PEOPLE IN THE BACK AND STILL PULL A SKIER WITH NO PROBLEM. I DON'T USE THE HYDRAULIC TRIM TABS ANYMORE. THE PERFORMANCE OF THE BOAT IS MUCH BETTER WITH THE DOEL-FIN, I RECOMMEND IT!"

AND ON AND ON AND ON, HUNDREDS OF NEWLY SATISFIED CUSTOMERS WEEKLY.

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JOHN C. CORAM NY. 7/22/87
25' CABIN CRUISER 260hp MERC I/O
"THE DOEL-FIN WORKS VERY NICELY. THE BOAT PLANES OFF FASTER, I PICK UP ABOUT 4 M.P.H AT 3400 RPM AND I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT, BUT I CAN STAY ON PLANE DOWN TO 1900 RPM. I CAN SEE WHERE I'M GOING WITHOUT STANDING ON MY TIP TOES AND THE BOAT DOESN'T "BUCK" THE SWELLS ANYMORE."

COLUMBIAN
JEFF B. SHELTER ISL. NY. 8/3/87
22' CUDDY CABIN 200hp EVINRUDE
"THEY DO EVERYTHING YOU CLAIMED. I'M ON PLANE AT 3000 RPM vs. 4200 BEFORE, I RUN FASTER AND SMOOTHER IN A ROUGH SWELL, I CAN SIT IN MY CHAIR AND SEE WHERE I'M GOING THE WHOLE TIME. YOU'VE GOT MY VOTE ON THEM. ALSO MY ENGINE ISN'T LABORING, I'VE PICKED UP 300 RPM ON THE TOP AND I HARDLY TOUCH THE TRIM. I'M VERY PLEASED WITH THE DOEL-FIN, EVERYONE WITH A BOAT SHOULD OWN THEM."

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PAUL M. WEBSTER MA. 8/3/87
20' W/GILL BRCKTS. 140hp EVINRUDE
"THE DOEL-FIN IS PHENOMINAL. I'M PLANNING AT 2700 vs. 4200 RPM BEFORE. I'M SAVING LOTS OF FUEL. IT KEEPS THE BOW DOWN, LETTING ME RUN FASTER THAN EVER THROUGH BIGGER SEAS THAN EVER WITH NO POUNDING. I WAS SKEPTICAL, NOW I'M A BELIEVER. DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR THEIR THE BEST INVESTMENT I EVER MADE."

SEA RAY
LEO P. CHICOPEE MA. 7/20/87
21' MONACO 228hp MERC I/O
"THE DOEL-FIN DOES A GOOD JOB. I PLANE RIGHT OFF NOW AND I CAN PULL TO 4500 RPM VS. 4000 MAX BEFORE. I'M VERY PLEASED, I RECOMMEND THE PRODUCT VERY HIGHLY."

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"THE DOEL-FINS WORK VERY NICE. I COULDN'T PUT ON TRIM TABS BECAUSE OF THE HULL DESIGN AND THE TWIN OUTDRIVES. THIS SOLVES THE PROBLEM AND THEY TOOK LESS THAN A HALF HOUR TO INSTALL. THE BOAT GETS ON PLANE MUCH FASTER, PLUS I CAN RUN DOWN TO 2800 RPM vs. 3400 BEFORE."

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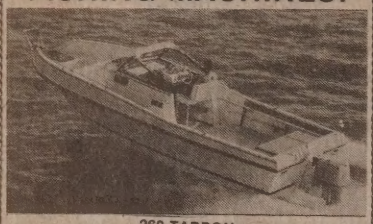
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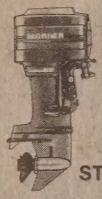
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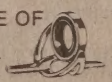
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Product Review

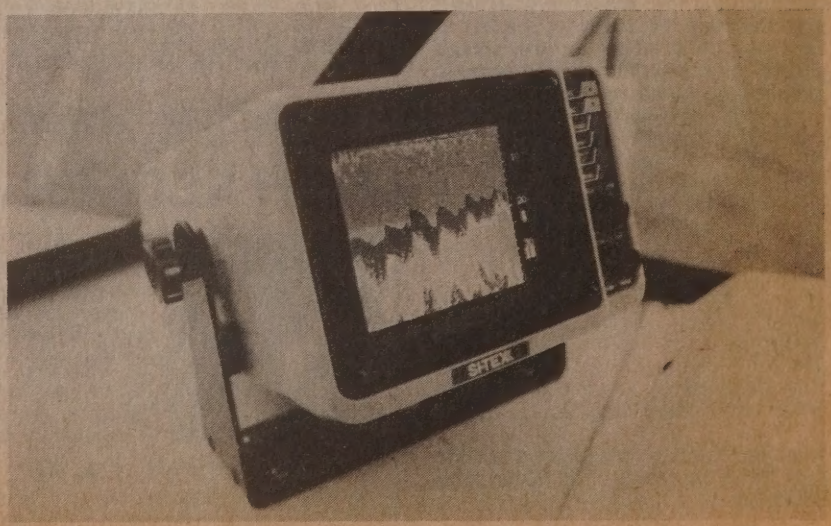
SITEX HE-708

by Capt. Pete Mikoleski

Okay, so I admit it. When it comes to high tech fish finding equipment for my boat, I'm an electronic gadget junkie. The truth of the matter really is, with all the useful information that you can glean from these ultra-sophisticated black boxes, you'd have to be a fool not to take advantage of it. Be that as it may, let me tell you about my new toy. We made the decision last year to upgrade our present paper recorder with a new video fish-finder simply because we got tired of running out of paper at the most inopportune time. Our budget dictated a switch to a black and white machine, but a conversation with Captain Dennis of the Marie III in Point Lookout changed all that. While on a wreck finding mission for sea bass, Dennis invited me up to the bridge to see just how much difference a color machine can make. The advantages of a color machine became clearly evident while we were trying to pinpoint the exact location of a low profile wreck off Jones Inlet. As soon as we came over the structure that Dennis was looking for, his big Si-Tex machine lit up like a Christmas tree! What could have been an illegible black outline above the bottom rubble through the eyes of a paper recorder lit up with a bright band of yellow over the red bottom echo that signaled that we were directly over the wreck. From that moment on I was sold, I had to have its baby brother, the Si-Tex HE-708 for my boat.

The Si-Tex HE-708 is a moderately priced, compact, user friendly, 7-color video finder that utilizes microprocessor-based electronics to display the depth of the water, bottom conditions and the location of intervening objects (as in fish) on a 6 inch CRT (cathode ray tube). You can select 5 sets of color configurations that contain 7 levels of color. Strong echoes from the bottom will produce red images, weaker echoes will produce varying colored images of yellow, green, purple, white or light blue, depending on the strength of the returning signal. You can also choose a background color of either blue or black and set an alarm that will sound when approaching shallow water. The HE-708 operates on a frequency of 107 KHZ with a power output of 100 watts. The usable depth range is from 0 to 600 feet with Auto/Manual shift capabilities of 1200 feet. There are four operator selected Sweep Speeds, a continuously variable Zoom feature (approximately 50 percent of the screen), a Clean Echo noise eliminator circuit and a Surface Temperature Indicator. The sounder measures 7.83 inches high (mounted in the bracket) by 10.12 inches wide by 13.82 inches deep including the daylight viewing hood. Enough with the technical jargon; let's see how this thing works!

The 708 is a pretty simple piece of equipment to learn to operate "if" you behave and plan to spend an hour or so with the instruction manual. Most of the functions are programmed via the Menu Key which is called up by pressing the menu button. A list of functions to be selected by the operator will appear on the right side of the CRT screen. To program or make changes in the menu setting, press either the DEC (decrease) or INC (increase) key to move the green



cursor up and down. Place the cursor next to the item to be activated or changed. Now press the Sweep/set key to enter the selected command. Once you program the 708 its memory will retain all the control settings when the power is turned off. So you won't have to reprogram your sounder every time you shut it down. Once you have adjusted the power up settings to their preferred functions, press the menu key again to return to the depth range readout. Now select the depth by pressing the Range key and then either the INC or DEC key. Adjust the Power/Gain switch to produce a recording of the bottom with a second echo. That's how you know the gain is set high enough. That's it; now go find some fish. It may sound complicated to operate this video sounder, but I assure you it is a lot easier than it sounds.

After almost a full season of hard use, the HE-708 performed almost flawlessly. I say almost because in a rush to get this sounder out on the market, a few of the first machines hit the dealers' shelves with a minor design flaw. Naturally, I was one of the lucky ones whose machine went south after about a month of use. One day its bright, vivid display turned into weak, flat, Miami Vice type colors. After a quick inspection and consultation by Andy at Shane's Marine, he confirmed what Si-Tex already knew. When the knobs on some machines were tightened they pressed against some of the circuit boards which caused the putrid colors. My 708 was whisked off to Si-Tex in FLorida by UPS and I had the machine back on the boat in perfect working order in about 12 days!

One more word about color sounders in general. Unless you have a very big, enclosed flying bridge, don't expect to see the same intense colors on your CRT display in bright sunlight that you saw on our dealer's shelf in subdued light. It just ain't possible; it's the nature of the beast. More often than not, you'll have to use the rubber viewing hood, especially if your boat doesn't have at least a Bimini top. This goes for black and white and color machines as well. If you want to get some idea of what I'm talking about, just take any small portable TV (black and white or color) outside on a bright, sunny day and check out the difference in the picture. As far as I'm concerned, the real advantages of a color sounder overshadow any minor deficiencies the unit may have. You'll actually be able to detect the individual predators present in a dense school of baitfish and see blackfish and sea bass light up as they hover in and around their bottom structure. Trust me, you'll be awakened to a much more valuable display of the underwater world beneath your hull with a color video sounder.

* * *

Manufactured by: Si-Tex Marine Electronics, P.O. Box 6700, Clearwater, FL 33518.

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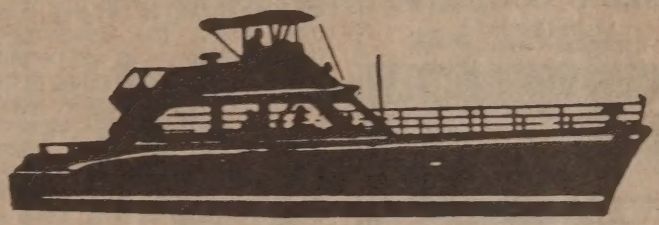

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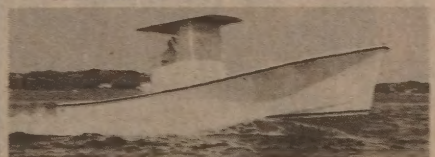

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The Tackle Doctor

by Ken Freel

The fall season is well at hand and we are beginning to receive questions that reflect the upcoming good fishing. Many of us will be out there trolling or diamond jigging in the next few weeks. One reader wanted to know what kind of 3M tape to mark wire line to accurately figure lure depth. The markers he was using got all balled up and non-functional after a few times of trolling. Let's answer his question first.

The 3M tape that works best with wire line is made of plastic. This is the only tape that withstands the rigors of trolling, especially in saltwater. The tape must be properly secured to the wire line, though, or it may become loose or start to unravel. Cut a piece from the roll about 12 inches in length and 1/4 to 3/8 inches wide. Take the piece of tape and wrap it tightly around the line. The tape should cover about 3 inches of the wire line. When about half of the tape has been wrapped over the 3 inch section of line begin to double back over the tape until the entire length of tape is used. This method should securely hold your tape through many, many trolling trips. If the tape begins to unravel after a lot of use, just snip the piece that sticks up and the rest will stay put.

It is important to use plastic tape. 3M markets several cloth or paper-backed tapes that are unsuitable. The plastic tape is similar to black electrical tape.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I troll using wire lines and I need some new rods which are specifically for this type of fishing. My problem is that I'm having a hard time finding the proper roller guide rods for this type of fishing. Can I use a regular chrome-eyed rod for a couple of trips until I find what I need. Does any major manufacturer make rods for trolling wire? Please help! *Mike Columbo.*

Dear Mike,

Don't even think of using a regular chrome guide style rod for trolling wire or you'll be ruining some good outfits fast. The wire will dig deep grooves in these guides in only a day's fishing. Even if it does not dig deep grooves right away, the slight grooves that will form will tear any monofilament line that you may use at a later date with these outfits.

The tackle shops that I've called have rods made by Daiwa and Penn that fit the bill. The Penn Slammer Series models SLC 2701 RTC and SLC 2661 RTC are made specifically for trolling with wire. Daiwa has the Sea-line Series SGC72C or the SGC73C which work well with wire line.

I suggest that you give a couple of shops in your area a call first. You may want to have a custom rod made too. A custom trolling rod will last a long time and could be a worthy investment. If you have no luck with the local shops or want to see what Penn and Daiwa have to offer, then write to the following:

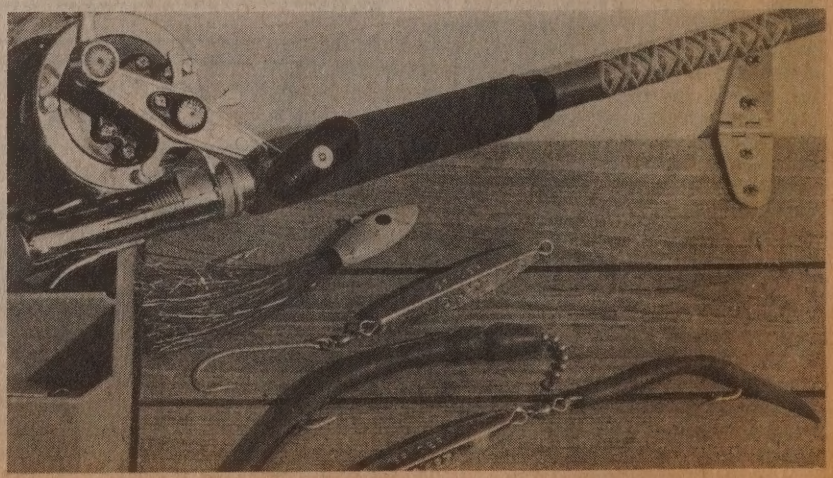
Daiwa Corporation, 7421 Chapman Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92641; (714) 895-6645.

Penn Fishing Tackle Manufacturing Co., 3028 West Hunting Park Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19132.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I've been using ferrule cement to secure my rod tiptop guide, but it



does not seem to be working well. Either the rod tip comes back off while I'm fishing or it begins to spin at the tip which is bothersome. A friend tells me that he uses epoxy glue and that it works just fine. Can I use epoxy glues to secure the tiptop guide? Thank you. *Steve Richardson.*

Dear Steve,

Yes, you can definitely use epoxy glue, but it works so well that you'll never be able to take the tiptop off again. Once the tip eye becomes worn or broken, you will have to cut it and the tip of the rod off to replace it. This usually does not affect the action of your rod that much, if at all. The nice thing about ferrule cement is that you can get the tip off without cutting the rod tip too.

It is rare for modern guides to wear out and with proper care they rarely break, so using epoxy glue will probably cause no major problems.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I am using a 4 inch diamond jig with a wire leader to catch blues off the bottom when I see them on the fish finder. The jigs really work well on the blues when they're on the bottom, but I keep getting one of the treble hooks caught on the line. This is annoying because it is often hard to tell that this has occurred until after I've pulled the jig back to the surface. Is there any way to prevent this from happening? Why does it only happen sometimes? Thanking you in advance for your help. *Dennis O'Brien.*

Dear Dennis,

Since you said you are using this setup specifically when you see bluefish on the bottom, I imagine that you are dropping the jig over the side and right to the bottom. This is where your trouble begins. If you just drop a jig over the side and let it sink to the bottom the force of the water pushes the bottom of the jig up. This causes the hook to become tangled to the line. The easy way to solve this problem is to cast the jig out from the boat a short distance; just a cast of a few feet, that's all. The cast sets the jig on a horizontal plane instead of a straight up and down vertical one. Therefore, it sinks down to the bottom on its side and is less likely to become snagged on itself.

Another thing you can do to help prevent snags is to remove the treble hook and replace it with a single one. Not only will you become snagged on the line less often, but you will be able to get the hook out of the chopper's mouth with much less effort.

You also mentioned using a wire leader with the jig. Why do you do this? You can fish a 4 inch jig safely without a wire leader. The jig itself acts as the leader. A wire leader will also take away some of the jig's action and you'll get less strikes. As tough as blues are I have not come across one yet that has bitten through a metal jig.

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SUMMER DOCKAGE • WINTER STORAGE

Dock Lines

by Eric Burnley

As the days become shorter and the weather turns colder, we near the saddest time of the year for a fisherman/boat owner. That time of the year when we have to put our favorite toy away until spring. How we go about putting our boat way will play a large role in determining how well it will perform when the new fishing season begins.

Depending on where you live and how far into the season you fish you may be shutting down right now or you may have a month or more to go before undertaking the task of winterizing. No matter when you do it there are certain tasks that must be performed if you want trouble free operation next year.

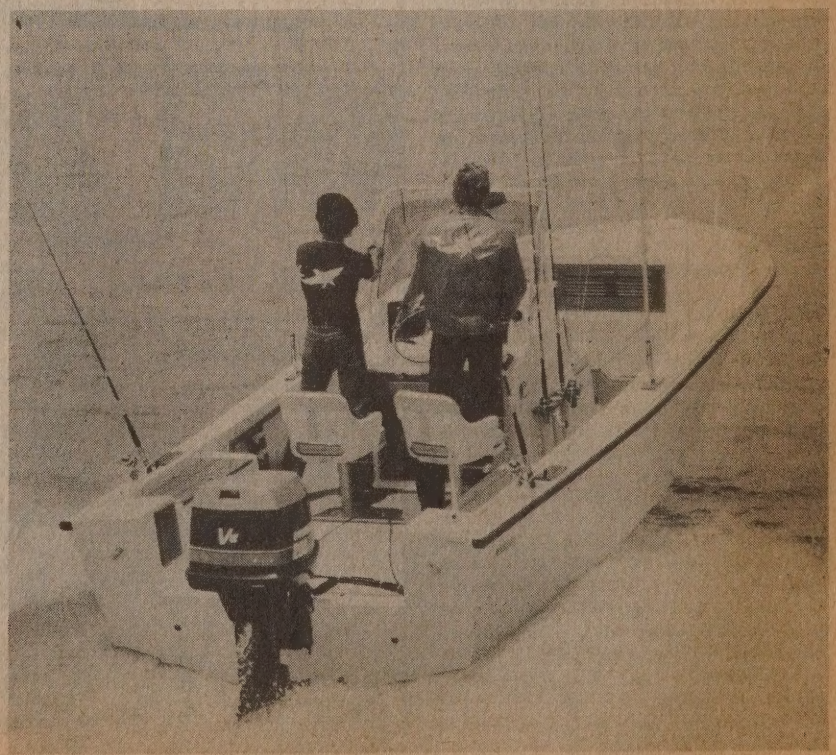
The motor must be serviced and prepared for winter storage. You should drain all lubricants and replace with clean oils before the motor is stored. Oil that has been in your motor all summer contains various contaminants that can cause corrosion over the winter. Clean oil will prevent this type of damage.

The gas left in your tank should be treated with a stabilizer and then you should top off the tank to prevent condensation as the temperature fluctuates over the winter. The mid-Atlantic region can experience all sorts of weather from fall into spring and variations in temperature of 50 degrees or more are not uncommon.

Remove the prop and service the shaft as recommended by the motor manufacturer. I coat the shaft and all the other spacers and washers with waterproof grease. Then I cover the whole mess with a plastic bag and secure it to the shaft with a rubber band. This keeps the grease from getting all over the place and keeps water and ice away from the parts.

Those of us who have an inboard or I/O have some additional chores. The most pleasant of these is draining the crankcase oil. I use an electric drill attached to a small pump to get most of the oil out of the sump. I pump it into one gallon plastic milk bottles that can be capped before placing into the proper disposal faciltiy. You can't dump old oil in the ground and you should not put it in the trash that goes to the landfill. If you can't find a service station that will take your old oil, contact a professional oil disposal company in your area. We don't need any more old, dirty oil dumped into the environment.

The oil filter must be replaced and this drips some oil into the bilge. I also lose a small amount of oil into the bilge after I remove the plug on



the oil pan. This oil is wiped up with rags and the bilge flushed out with an oil dispersing and EPA approved detergent. I use Starbrite Bilge Cleaner, but Tip Top Terrific and other manufacturers make a similar product.

Use the type of oil recommended by the manufacturer of your engine. I have a MerCruiser 165 hp I/O and I use Mercury 4 Cycle Engine Oil. I probably could get away with using a quality motor oil made for automobiles but I feel safer with the product sold specifically for my marine engine.

After the filter is in and the oil has been replaced, run the engine to check for leaks. Let it warm up to operating temperature; then run at 1500 to 2000 RPMs while you check the oil filter and the crankcase plug for any sign of oil seepage.

After I finish changing the oil I remove all six spark plugs and spray the cylinders with CRC Marine Engine Stor. This protects the valves, cylinder walls, pistons and rings from corrosion over the winter.

My boat has a freshwater cooled engine, so I must service this cooling system by flushing it out and replacing the anti-freeze. I also fill the manifold with anti-freeze to retard rusting over the winter. Those parts of the raw water cooling system that can't be filled with anti-freeze are drained. Some folks have suggested running anti-freeze through the lower unit, but I don't feel this is necessary and there is some concern that the anti-freeze could damage the rubber impeller.

While I service my motor, I keep an eye out for possible problems. I check spark plug wires, water hoses, electrical connectors and anything else I can see for signs of deterioration or wear. I find it much easier and far more convenient to replace something at the dock or on the trailer than while I am bobbing around 20 miles at sea.

Once I am satisfied that everything is shipshape in the motor compartment, I clean up the area and spray everything with CRC Marine Formula 6-66. You can use WD 40 or any quality water displacing oil for this job; just be sure to coat all metal surfaces and wires well so you won't have any rust on the engine come spring.

The steering cable and associated equipment must be serviced or you will have severe problems in the spring. The steering system may work well all season, but the corrosion gremlins will attack over the winter and leave you with a frozen and useless pile of junk plus a big repair bill. To combat these gremlins the steering system must be thoroughly lubricated now either by a marine mechanic or by yourself. I suggest a mechanic because the steering can be knocked out of alignment unless you know what you are doing.

Next week, we will look at the clean up and protection you should do to the outside of your boat before winter storage.

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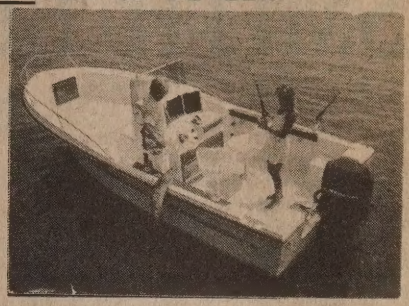

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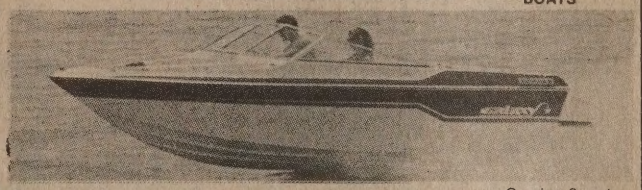

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FOURTH ANNUAL ARTHUR SMITH BLUEFISH TOURNEY

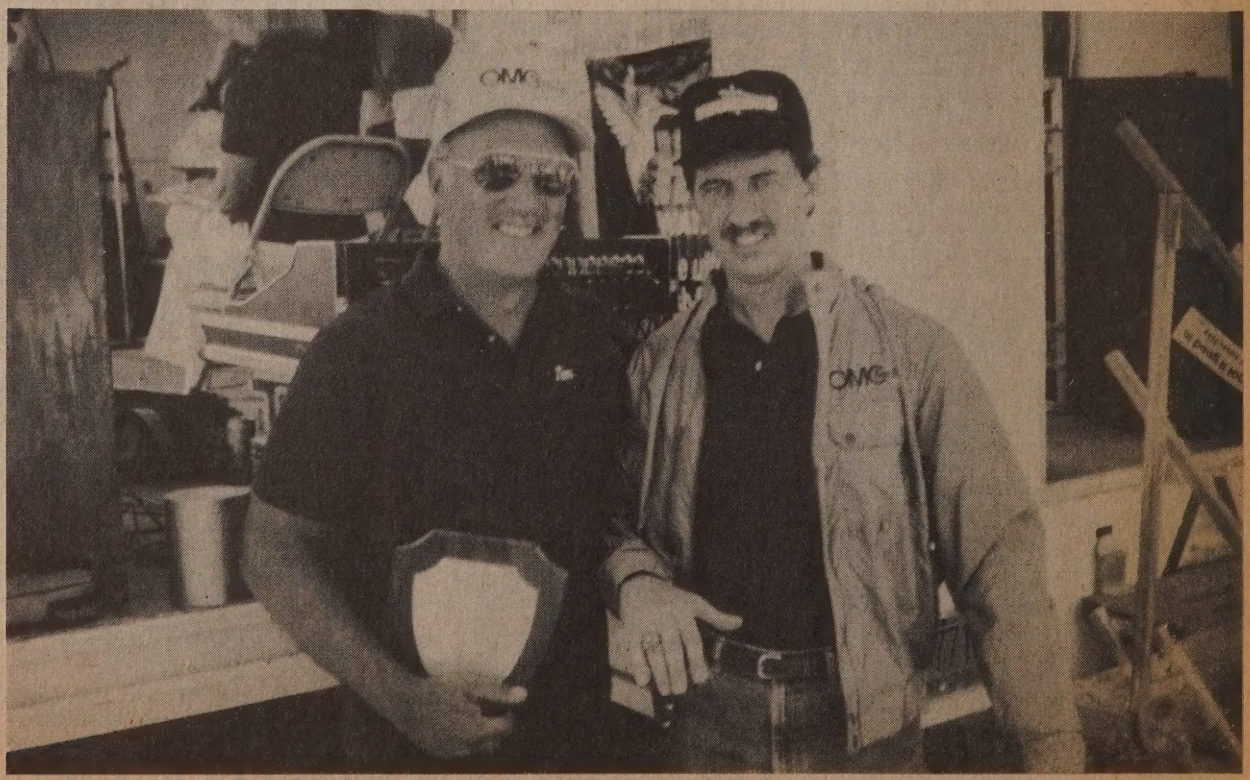
by John Raguso

One of the best things to ever hit Long Island's shores, specifically in the canals of Freeport, New York, is the renowned Arthur Smith tournament circuit. Initiated four years ago, a growing cadre of anglers are availing themselves of the opportunity to compete for the more than $250,000 in prize money and merchandise that accompanies this Annual Arthur Smith Bluefish contest. Although the two other Arthur Smith events, the original King Mackerel Tournament of South Carolina (11 years running!) and the Kingfish-Dolphin-Wahoo Tournament of the Palm Beaches, have more participants and slightly bigger purses, the Long Island edition of the Smith contest circuit is still one of our area's richest competitive matches.

Not only do the nature and regulations of this contest promote conservation and fair play among the participants, but due to the habits and geographical whereabouts of the sought-after **Pomotomus saltartix**, a.k.a. slammer bluefish, just about every boat that's entered has an equal chance at cruising into the winner's circle. So whether you own a 16 foot skiff (the minimum contest boat length) or a 62 foot Striker, if you can safely navigate either Fire Island or Jones Inlets, you have as good a chance as any to walk any with one of the top prizes. Indeed, the majority of the historical winners for this and the other A/S events were victorious in boats averaging from 22 to 24 feet, so that should encourage many Fisherman readers for next year's contest. As if to punctuate this prophecy, the overall winner of this year's largest bluefish award caught it in a 22 foot Grady-White dual console mini-sportfisherman.

For the first couple of years, the Arthur Smith Bluefish Contest was held during the week, on a Thursday and Friday, with award ceremony and fish fry on Saturday, and no doubt the timing kept a few anglers at home or at work who ordinarily would have participated in the competition. For 1987, this event was scheduled for fishing on Friday and Saturday, with awards and entertainment on Sunday and accordingly, over 500 boats paid the $250 entry fee to compete for a king's ransom of prizes. Boats from Galaxy, Hydra-Sports, Glassmaster and Funliner, with power by OMC and Cox trailers were among this past tournament's top giveaways. Cash awards from Sperry Top-Sider, Bagley's Silver Thread line, Olin, Red Man, in addition to 16 various boat manufacturers, spiced up the pot and created many mini-contest opportunities for those who might not have qualified for the major award categories.

Now that we are familiar with the history of the Arthur Smith Bluefish Tournament and some of its prize structure, let's take a closer look at what happened at this year's event. The festivities kicked off with a VIP dinner the Thursday night before the contest, and those attending included Arthur Smith, the Tournament founder, his son Clay Smith, the Tournament President, various local political dignitaries, and even ex-Yankee superstar-of-the-60s, Bobby Richardson. The get-together was



Capt. Tom DiMauro and angler Don Heinsch show off plaque and championship ring.

held at Westbury's fashionable Island Inn and the accommodations and tablefare were first rate, as was the entertainment provided by Arthur Smith, who is a famous country musician and songwriter by trade. A prayer for favorable weather followed the meal.

Friday dawned under leaden overcast skies, whipping easterly winds, occasional torrential rains and predictably lumpy 4 to 6 foot seas. Contest regulations call for each angler to use his or her discretion regarding weather conditions, but due to calendar restrictions, the show must go on. Catches showed the effects of the day's inclement surroundings and from an overall size standpoint, the weights were down a bit. The daily prize winners for day #1 were as follows:

1st, $2850, Capt. Stephen Christensen, 71.78 lbs.
2nd, $2850, Capt. James Hughes, 70.09 lbs.
3rd, $2300, Capt. Carl DeCaro, 67.22 lbs.
4th, $2100, Capt. Irving Grossman, 66.52 lbs.
5th, $2100, Capt. Steven Goodman, 64.24 lbs.
6th, $1500, Capt. Howard Sternberg, 63.08 lbs.
7th, $1500, Capt. Thomas Nickel, 62.82 lbs.
8th, $1200, Capt. Lawrence Linck, 61.30 lbs.
9th, $1150, Capt. Joe Giantruco, 60.29 lbs.
10th, $1050, Capt. Ronald Dierlam, 56.14 lbs.

Saturday's weather was more favorable. After the early morning fog was moved out by a moderate northerly breeze, sea conditions calmed down to tolerable levels, and the catches reflected this improvement as well. The winners for day #2 were as follows:

1st, $2850, Capt. Tom Patelco, 75.41 lbs.
2nd, $2850, Capt. Neil Azar, 75.17 lbs.
3rd, $2300, Capt. Ralph Witner, 74.94 lbs.
4th, $2100, Capt. Fred Mello, 73.91 lbs.
5th, $2100, Capt. George Carter, 72.70 lbs.
6th, $1500, Capt. Carl DeCaro, 70.31 lbs.
7th, $1500, Capt. Howard Sternberg, 68.58 lbs.
8th, $1200, Steven Goodman, 68.51 lbs.
9th, $1150, Capt. Doug Moore, 68.11 lbs.
10th, $1050, Joe Giantruco, unknown.

Moving on to the grand prize categories, here were the lucky winners:

Largest bluefish—overall: Thomas DiMauro, 18.55 lbs.

Largest Bluefish—Freeport: Ralph Bencivenego, 17.69 lbs.

Largest Bluefish—Bay Shore: Robert Howard, 15.12 lbs.

Most Pounds Overall—2 days: Arthur Horning, Jr., 147.32 lbs.

Shifting to the "tournament within a tournament," specifically the largest slammers caught on sponsoring manufacturers' boats, each of the following anglers received a check for $1,000 from the associated boat company:

Aquasport, Capt. Carl DeCaro, 15.21 lbs.
Black Fin, Capt. James Edny, 12.95 lbs.
Boston Whaler, Capt. Mark Branchard, 16.53 lbs.
Cruisers, Capt. Don Scalafani, 13.44 lbs.
Fountain, no entry, none
Galaxy, Capt. Frank Cassidy, 11.12 lbs.
Glassmaster, Capt. Ed Sida, 7.46 lbs.
Grady-White, Capt. Tom DiMauro, 18.55 lbs.
Hatteras, unknown, 11.55 lbs.
Hydra-Sports, Capt. Peter Zorkas, 14.51 lbs.
Luhrs, Capt. Louis Redazzo, 10.34 lbs.
Sea-Ray, Capt. Doug Moore, 15.15 lbs.
Sport-Craft, Capt. Mike Fogle, 16.62 lbs.
Tiara, Capt. Howard Sternberg, 15.11 lbs.
Wellcraft, Capt. Tom Nickel, 13.25 lbs.
Rampage, Capt. Irving Grossman, 14.67 lbs.

As you can see from the various prize category listings, there were many multiple winners. Some folks are even repeat winners from prior year's tournaments! As a special note, the Boston Whaler winner, Mark Branchard, trailered his small 17 footer down from Rhode Island for the event. Daily prize-winner Howard Sternberg called at least winning boats on to his location to share in the bluefish bounty and was justly rewarded for his altruism.

Overall victor, Tom DiMauro fishing in his 22 foot Grady-White Tournament related that on both days he and his crew anchored over a small "unknown" wreck in 60 feet of water between Debs and Rockaway Inlets. This was the locale that was scouted by Howard Sternberg and basically supplied most of the blues that won prizes, so these numbers are worth their weight in gold! You weren't fishing over the hulk of the Iberia or the Mistletoe wrecks, were you Tom? Angler Don Heinsch was the lucky one who landed the 18.55 lb. bluefish on Tom's Grady to capture the Tournament ring.

In summary, this was one of the best run events that I've ever seen. Arthur and Clay Smith use their experiences learned at the King Mackerel tourneys to good advantage at this Bluefish Contest. It is run fairly with good checks and balances to ensure honest results. With all the opportunities for prizes combined with the modest entry fee, I'm surprised that there weren't twice as many boats competing in the tournament. Next year will hopefully see more favorable weather and more anglers. I know there'll be at least one more entry—see you there next year!

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TUNA MAN

by Tim Coleman

The "Black Grouper" is a white boat owned and operated by Cap'n Pea Wisher, Port 'O Tunantic, Ct., a short steam across the Sound from famous Moneytake Point, New York. Awhile back, Captain Wisher sold his business, tipped his hat to the workaday world and sailed off to water his investments, including a 36 footer he bought for tunafishing. This is his story. Editor's Note: There is no such person as Cap Wisher for if there was, and he read this, he wouldn't be able to split expenses on a trip to Key West in January, because he'd have us in court for telling the truth.

Captain Wisher does some fishing for hire, some fishing for fun, but in both cases he's usually accompanied by Derrick, son #2, able mate and tuna catcher par excellance. Derrick holds the port record for tying a Bimini in 6.1 seconds, while at the same time eating 1.36 bags of Doritos.

Derrick is a man who'll bear down on a tunafish that's heading the wrong way. He once fought a fish for 3½ hours only to lose it right at boatside when the hook pulled. The same day he was back in the chair, this time for 1½ hours before the gimbal rest broke due to all the pressure being exerted. He tried with all he had left to fight the giant standing up with regulation 80 pound tackle, but in the end the stubborn fish won out. That was one round for bluefish, but by week's end Derrick was two up—a 310 and 560.

At the end of the trips Derrick can be found by the cutting table with fillet knife the size of a machete in hand. There, in-between lopping fins off makos, he dispenses such sage advice as 120 pound yellows are nice, but 500 pound bluefins are better. With tips like that in the offing, is it any wonder a crowd gathers by the fillet board at day's end?

Cap's Wisher's 36 footer got her name from his now famous bouts with the ill-mannered Darth Vader of the southern seas, the black grouper. Groupers, especially the big blacks, have an annoying habit of taking a bait then dashing back into the rocky homes before a fisherman reacts. You must shoot the boots to them right away or they'll cut you off or rock you up, then cut you off. Light tackle works on a large dumb one that happens to swim the wrong way, but otherwise, most grouper specialists start at 60 pound mono and head up. Now the good captain isn't a man to let fish go to waste, so after the first few unsuccessful attempts he was seen boarding a long range head boat bound for the grouper grounds 75 miles off Key West with a 130 bent butt wound with 200 pound line.

It's also been said the captain is a man to take advantage of what's around regardless of status. On a trip to Bimini last May he was the first to suggest a little bottom time when the blue marlin weren't home. With his favorite 80 pound outfits on board he was right at home for his style light tackle grouper fishing. Editor's Note: We have seen Captain Wisher drop down AS LOW AS 50 pound tackle last January on the little wreck just west of the sub off the western Dry Rocks. The good cap hauled a couple 25 pounders without missing a beat even though that meant bringing up grouper and part of the sunken vessel. When it comes to groupers and $10/pound tunafish, the cap will pull hard.

Here's a funny look at a fictitious captain, on a fictitious boat, in an unknown tuna fleet.

Back home along the Connecticut shore it was time for tunafishing for hire. Among his customers this past summer were Heidi and Melissa. With names like that, ages 17 and 18, you might guess they weren't old pros at the game, but what the duo lacked in experience, they made up for with enthusiasm. When Heide hooked the Great White Albacore, the world's largest 22 pounder proved a tad too much for her muscles, so Melissa helped out. While Heidi reeled Melissa got under the rod to hold it up in fighting position much like you've seen in the mine disaster flicks where a strongman holds a timber aloft while his friends scramble to safety. Melissa held the 50 to 80 stand-up rod high enough, long enough for Heidi to come out the winner. In the end, everyone clapped except the albacore.

On other occasions, the captain had other newcomers on his craft. We judged them to be new since one member of the five man party showed up in old flight hat (as in WW I) complete with long flowing scarf. He looked for all the world like Snoopy about to go aloft to fight the evil Red Baron Von Yellowfin. Later that day we happened to pass by the Black Grouper as she lay at anchor in the tuna fleet. Usually the good captain surveys the cockpit action from his pedestal chair near radio, Loran, color machine, and Diet Coke. Oddly, though, Cap's Wisher was down in the cockpit tending rods, a sure sign that either the fishing was red hot or the party was having trouble making ends meet. At one point earlier Snoopy's scarf had become entangled under the bars of a 50 wide as he attempted to fight a fish. We understood he did land the tuna but not before the star of our story came down to tear the scarf free. Ah, the joys of charter boating.

On another trip, the captain went for a busman's holiday with a fish writer and two friends aboard. Note: he said he wanted to relax, but just between you and me I think it was because the price of tuna was u-p-p-p-p! That week there were some big blue guys in amongst the 150 lb. yellowfin. We put out five rods that morning: four were either 130 chair rods or heavy duty 50 to 130 stand-ups; the fifth rod was a relatively light 50 to 80 stand-up stick. Guess which one the 500 plus pounder hit?

The contest was almost over before it started. Our fish took off right into the fleet with us backing down—hard. The first target was the anchor line of a 35 footer with flybridge with owner asleep or something. Despite mega-hollering, the man didn't drop off his ball until it was too late. ZIP, the 130 pound mono cut through the rope as the fish went still deeper in the 100 boat fleet. The Black Grouper backed down after it—harder, much harder than before. This time the fish went under the anchor line of the F/V owned by Captain Joseph Osreyski who got off his ball right away. With two-thirds of the line off the reel and more going, we caught up with Joey's anchor line at the point our line went under it. However, at that point we find Cap'n Wisher hollering, no check that, yelling, no check that, scream-

ing, at one of our crew, Mr. Henry Tootsboat, to free the line with gaff in his hand. Henry is a friendly man not given to foolish actions, high blood pressure, but he was looking for the line on the wrong side of the boat. In the end, Henry found his military right but not before the poor cap's face was six shades beyond deep red. We were about out of the second anchor line when the fish reached the third one some 350 feet still further into the fleet. With a merciful pop, we ran out of opportunities on the reel and resumed our anchorage to try again.

While there were some exciting moments there were others given to quiet inspection. One such was during the Atlantic Tuna Tussle held at the Shallow Sea Club at famous Money-take Point. While the captain's 36 footer is an able craft she was dwarfed by some of the machines in residence. One such was a 60' Hadderats captain by Captain William H. Mackerel from Tunantic with Perry from the Blue Chip Tackle Company handling cock-pit chores. Now a 60' SF is a nice vessel, but you must realize the owner was a wealthy gent who was fishboat-less prior to the tournament. He flew to Florida to buy the 60 footer as an interim machine until his new 76' Strikeout showed up. We're sure you can see the logic of that exercise, I mean, a man's got to have a boat to fish out of, right??

Inside the 60 footer, at the dock that evening, we all agreed someone had turned up the A/C way too high. The cool air, though, helped keep the wine in the iced decanter in the hole in the card table next to the cushiony sofas in the salon at just the right tempera-ture. Next time you go tautog fishing with your buddy make darn sure he understands the wine is to be chilled upon your arrival. Anyway, some plebian scup fisherman said he didn't recognize that brand of wine. Captain Mackerel stated it was from the vine-yard owned by the boat's owner. Figures.

If someone didn't like wine with their lobster salad, they could get a drink from the bar inlaid with teak and complete with dimmer switch, overhead lights and cut crystal. In addition to having the lights on the bar either dim or bright, you could turn another dial which had filters so the amber stuff in the cut crystal would turn a polite rose color or per-haps pale blue, depending on the mood of the occasion. I'd vote for the pale blue if you don't hook up that particular day. Fishing in a big money tournament is a helluva drain on one, but it's a dirty job somebody has to do.

Well, that'll do it for the story on Captain Wisher, but we must do one more thing before this goes to press. Before he has a chance to read this I'm going to make sure I have his deposit check for his share of our Key West expenses. All is fair in love, war, tunafish and going to Florida in the winter.

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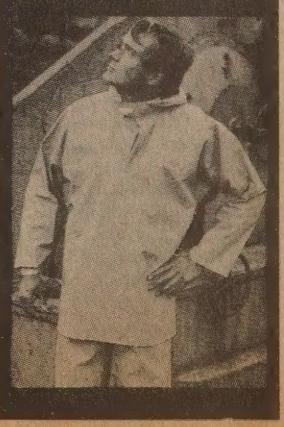


RICHES OF YOUTH

by Peter Hutnick

Youth! Aahh, just the word gets me excited! If I had a chance to relive my childhood, I would do it exactly the same as I did it the first time. If ever I meet the right woman and have children of my own, I will bring them up the same way my mom brought me up. Hopefully they will have as delightful a childhood as my brother Joe and I had.

A typical day for my friends and I would be spent down at Gould's Pond. Of course we had other haunts, but good ol' Gould's was a special place. Particularly with "Uncle Sam" lurking under a nearby lily pad patch, or a knocked down tree. "Uncle Sam" was the biggest and oldest, not to mention the smartest catfish in Gould's Pond. If you were fortunate enough to hook Uncle Sam, he most always found a way to evade you. I know of only two people to catch him for a fact: Ricky Magona and my brother Joe. Others have claimed this high stature of excellence! Gould's pond is known to populate some large catfish. This is a good reason for a mistaken capture of Uncle Sam. I forgot to mention if you were fortunate enough to tangle with and land Uncle Sam, it was demanded that you released him unharmed so that other kids would be able to fish for him again someday. I think it is astonishing that little kids of our age were practicing conservation when we couldn't even spell the word!

Gould's pond had no true game fish, which was fine with me and my buddies, since all we were interested in was to learn to fish and have fun. When you come right down to it, what is fishing all about but having fun?

We experimented with almost every kind of bait, including bacon, ham and cheese, along with your normal baits. Bacon, by the way is a good bait for yellow perch. Darrel Simmons once threaded bacon on his hook to take the largest yellow perch I have seen to date. We even discovered chumming at an early age. A loaf of bread scattered on the pond's surface had a large variety of fish feeding on the surface in no time. This made it possible to pick out the fish you wanted.

Eventually we moved onto bigger things, and one night Darrell, Dan Greenberg and myself headed for Lake Ronkonkoma. We started fishing the lake with rubber worms. I had to borrow a nut from a nearby gas station to increase my casting distance. Then it happened under a moonlit sky. My worm was picked up by something. My heart began to race, I couldn't believe it! I leaned into him and landed my first bass. The feeling that had overcome me was indescribable. I have caught many bass since that night including some large ones. None of the fish gave me the thrill of that first one.

After that night my friends and I came down with a serious sickness, known as "bass fever." It's a sickness for which there is no cure. But then again everyone who catches this bug never seems to want to get rid of it!

"The feeling of making an adventure out of everything is still close to my heart. Unfortunately, we can't do this as an adult."

If we weren't playing sports, we were always bass fishing. We probed Lake Ronkonkoma the same as Roland Martin or Ricky Clunn would probe a lake before a tournament. We even made our own rafts to search for the honey holes, along the same lines of Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer. When we fished, we were wet from the leaks in our rafts, but it was well worth it!

We eventually developed into some fine bass fishermen. Which led us to the idea of stocking Gould's pond with bass. It would be perfect. Largemouths practically in our own back yard. They would be able to forage better than in Lake Ronkonkoma, because the population of yellow perch and bluegills in Gould's, were tremendous considering we used to catch upwards to 300 in a few short hours. So the next few weeks saw us pedalling from Lake Ronkonkoma to the pond with buckets of bass on our handle bars. After many sloppy trips, we left well enough alone. We even stopped fishing Gould's pond for what seemed like an eternity.

The following spring saw us down at Gould's tripping over our tongues and sure enough, we saw hundreds of runt bass in the shallows. The pond today has a very good bass fishery. I still visit once in awhile with a fly rod to explore the lily pad pockets, only to be startled by an enormous explosion. After I set the hook home, I just smile. When no one is around I'll let out a scream, because I know this wouldn't be possible if it weren't for my buddies and I.

Then out of nowhere we wanted a change, like all kids, we were never happy with what we had, always wanting more. So we decided to give trout fishing a try. Darrel and I fished Nissequogue State Park. Where we fished, it was strictly children fishing. You signed in when you arrived and they would make sure the barbs on your hooks were clamped down.

The fishing here was pretty good. We caught multiple quantities of bluegills and an occasional bass. We also caught brook trout.

The only thing that bothered us was when parents came down and watched their kids fish. Come on already, kid, put your foot down. You know you want to be alone. Get rid of mom and dad, at least Darrel and I thought this when it occurred. You know how a kid's mind works.

The funniest thing that happened when we fished at Nissequogue was when a dad brought his kid to fish. He proceeded to ask where was a good place to fish for trout. So Darrel pointed out a good area. It was quite evident that they did not know what they were doing, since they were gingerly casting a bobber the size of a grapefruit into the water. You know, trying to be quiet and not spooking any trout. We were surprised no trout floated belly-up to the surface from the explosion.

Eventually, Darrel and I began to dream up an idea. The it suddenly struck us when Darrel caught a sizable eel. Getting to know eels quite well, Darrel and I put on an act that we couldn't get him of the hook. We asked good ol' dad for some friendly assistance. Well, being the nice man he was, how could he refuse two innocent young boys, who earlier pointed out a likely fishing spot. The man proceeded to grab the eel by the

body—mistake! The eel began to coil up the man's arm. The man, by the way, was wearing a brand new white fisherman's sweater. It was covered from wrist to elbow with slime. Needless to say, Darrel and I could not control our emotions. So we began to laugh hysterically. After the man finally got the eel off his arm, with hook still intact, Darrel grabbed a nearby stick and let the eel coil around it and released the eel with no more complications. The man looked dumbfounded. As the saying goes, "boys will be boys."

Darrel and I fished a lot together. You might say we were practically inseparable. We made lots of friends while fishing, though, which just seems to happen quite often. Some of these friends become friends for life. The saying that fishermen are the nicest people is true from the word go.

I can remember a fishing trip for carp where the latter held true. Darrel and I came across four other kids fishing for carp. So we joined them. Eventually with us all chumming heavily with bread and corn, we had a lot of beefy carp around. The action was fantastic—while it lasted. Scott McDonald decided to climb a tree overhanging the swamp. After picking out the largest carp, Scott tried his luck. Unfortunately, luck was not in his favor nor ours. The limb Scott was sitting on could not withstand the extra weight, so Scott wound up taking a bath in the swamp (needn't worry, though, he needed the bath bad). Scott, I found out later, was a dirty kid. Needless to say, large carp are very wary, so Scott's bath sort of ended the action.

But as I was saying earlier about making true-blue friends while fishing, it's true. Since that day carp fishing, Darrel and I are best of friend with those four kids we met. Scott McDonald, who cleaned up his act somewhat, Tony Licausi, Erik Perrelli and Billy Bartik.

But as life goes and and we get older, we get set in our ways and unfortunately seem to forget our youth. Fortunately, I did not forget what it was like. The feeling of making an adventure out of everything is still close to my heart. Unfortunately, we can't do this as an adult.

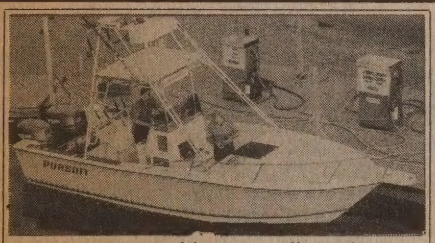
Today when I drive by a lake or stream, and see kids fishing, I will more than likely stop, probing around asking questions, testing these kids! I love when kids want to teach me. I'll sit down and listen and learn, because you never know, their techniques could pay off. Maybe a simple idea that you overlooked. So I do sit down and listen. I know Darrel and I certainly outfished a lot of older people when we were little runts!

Then there are the times when Jr. cannot seem to buy a bite. I will proceed to sit down and try to lend a helping hand. The look on some kid's face as you explain step by step to him what to do and why you do them is just as rewarding as catching fish yourself.

This is where concerned parents play a major role in junior's lust for fishing. All junior needs is a little attention in this area. Show him that you are interested in catching fish. If you're not, please don't try to misinform or lead him in another direction. Give him a positive attitude! Let him know fishing is an excellent learning experience. There is no better way of learning about nature than living it and seeing it happen right in front of you.

You will also find, that while fishing with a child, the two of you will become closer. You can often learn more about him and understand him better. The same goes for him also.

If junior is more of a soloist or he prefers to fish with his friends, so be it. This is the route my friends and I took. I am a firm believer that if you want something bad enough, you're going to get it if you seek it. Although this theory is not holding water with my 10 lb. brown trout, yet! What I mean is I personally prefer when you achieve something on your own. Teaching yourself and seeing the results, learning from mistakes, etc. Like I said earlier, I wish I still got the same feeling when I catch a bass as I did the first time! I'll never forget that moment. So please, if junior does go fishing with some buddies, remember, "boys will be boys."



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THE BOTTOM LINE

by Russ Wilson

Saltwater fishermen who might be looking for ways to extend their fishing season could do a lot worse than to focus attention toward the inshore wrecks and broken bottom grounds where sea bass, porgy and some of the largest tautog of the year are ready and willing.

A lot of dedicated sportsmen who might not ordinarily fish during the tag end of the season should investigate this underutilized fishery. At times, the late season bottom fishing is as good as any found along the Atlantic Seaboard during spring and summer. And as a bonus, there are fewer anglers vying for a limited amount of structure.

I've been into "tautog fishing" for the better part of 40 years, first as a youth fishing from the coastal jetties with a father who could catch more and bigger fish than anyone had a right and later as a boat owner who could reach spots that were inaccessible to land-based sportsmen. I am still learning something new about the fish I seek and will probably continue to learn for as long as I continue to enjoy the fun of catching fish.

Fishing in any form, whether it be in the fresh or salt water arena, is a continual learning experience. If you do not agree, or feel you already know all there is to know about the sport, you are wasting your time and mine by reading this article, for there is nothing I can tell you that you probably do not already know.

If, however, like most of us who are always looking for new and exciting fishing opportunities, you would like to pick up some helpful tips on locating and catching late season bottom species, I suggest you read on.

To be a success at catching most any species of fish you must first learn the habits, both strengths and weaknessess of that particular species. Some fish are just plain stupid and can be caught without any finesse whatsoever. Others are less inclined to suicide and to be a success at catching them will require a little more effort at your end of the fishing rod.

Sea bass, for instance, will often jump all over a strip bait or live killie that is being drifted for summer flounder, but may ignore a juicy strip of squid or fiddler crab that is fished in the traditional manner. This does not mean the sea bass is dumb, far from it. The sea bass can be as finicky as a streamwise brown trout if it so desires.

Tautog, or blackfish as most northern area sportsmen refer to this excellent eating bottom dweller, are even more difficult to catch due to their uncanny ability to strip a bait without giving the angler a chance to sink the hook. I'd venture a guess the tough-skinned blackfish has caused more frustration to a greater number of sportsmen than all other species of bottom fish combined. And it is the reason why the blackfish is such a highly prized fish among knowledgeable saltwater anglers.

The porgy, or scup, is not as plentiful as it once was, and in general, the average size is much smaller than during years of plenty. Still, there is some reasonably good porgy fishing on tap for late season sportsmen who probe the inshore and middle range wrecks and rocky bottom grounds.

A schooling fish, the porgy often travels in large wolf packs, numbering in the thousands. If you happen to luck into a big school of scup that is in a mood to eat it is quite possible to fill a 5 gallon bucket as fast as you can drop a baited hook to the bottom.

As a general rule of thumb, structure that is inhabited by late season tautog will also harbor lots of sea bass and scup. When planning a fishing trip it is advisable to carry bait and terminal type tackle that can be used for each. I prefer a sturdy conventional type rod measuring 6½ to 7 feet when fishing inshore wrecks from an anchored boat. This length rod is ideally suited to plumbing the depths and will have enough power to hoist fish from the wrecks and rock-strewn bottom. Anglers who are into using spinning tackle might opt for a rod of similar proportions.

Most any medium size conventional casting or spinning reel that is capable of holding a couple hundred yards of 20 pound test line is more than adequate for inshore wreck and broken ground bottom fishing. The additional line capacity isn't needed, but reels large enough to hold a couple hundred yards of line are usually built strong, will have a quality drag system and a 4 to 1 or 5 to 1 retrieve ratio that allows a faster pick-up of line with each turn of the reel handle.

Although it is possible to use light line, say anything between 10 and 17 pound test, I much prefer to go heavy in order to avoid the continuous hassle of tying on new rigs each time the hook hangs on an underwater snag. For most inshore bottom fishing from a private boat, I'll load the reel with a premium grade 20 pound test

clear monofilament.

Sportsmen who stow their boats early might give the party boats a try. There are boats sailing daily from all basins along the New York, Long Island shore and many captains will be sailing specifically for bottom fishing throughout October, November and December.

You might check with captains sailing from Montauk Point, Sag Harbor and Shinnecock Inlet, Moriches, Captree, Bay Shore, Babylon, Freeport, Point Lookout and Sheepshead Bay.

There is a large contingent of party and charter boats operating from all of the above ports and also at City Island, Port Jefferson and throughout the north shore basins in both New York and Connecticut.

I do advise using heavy duty tackle and line of at least 20 and often 30 pound test when fishing aboard a party boat. Bottom snags, crossed lines and the ensuing tangles are commonplace aboard a crowded party boat. When a rig is snagged or a tangle does occur, it is generally the angler using lighter line who loses his fish and possibly his rig.

Tautog are the tough guys among bottom species. Often topping 10 or 12 pounds and occasionally weighing up to 15 pounds, the tautog will test your tackle to the limit. Sea bass and scup do attain respectable weights but more often than not, will average less than 2 pounds. Both species provide some excitement, certainly not on a par with larger tautog, however, since each is inhabiting similar terrain, it is advisable to use tackle that has enough backbone to tame the stronger tautog.

Many experienced tautog fishermen prefer the standard Virginia model hook in sizes 4 through 8, which offers the greatest number of hook-ups per strike. This particular style hook has a short barb for quick penetration and a full round bend that makes it ideal for hooking hard baits such as green or fiddler crab. Other anglers of equal experience may choose the short shank beak style, Pacific bass or upturned eye (octopus) model in a #1, 1/0 or 2/0.

I've used each at one time or another and also taken bottom fish on every other hook style imaginable including the long shank Chestertown style that is popular among winter flounder anglers and the fine wire Aberdeen that is used extensively by freshwater bass fishermen.

When all three species are available, the time-honored Virginia model hook is probably the best choice. It can be used with hard baits as mentioned, or when baiting with pieces of blood or sand worm, strips of clam and other soft baits.

Bottom species are extremely aggressive. More often than not, the fish are competing for a limited amount of food and when a tasty morsel enters their domain it is attacked by several fish the minute it touches bottom. Of course, bergalls (cunner), ocean pout, conger eels and other less desirable species are abundant on most bottom structure and will also grab whatever kind of food that comes their way.

Big porgies are sometimes the reward. This 3 plus pounder was caught aboard the Brand X.

Novice anglers are usually not aware of how quickly a cunner or tautog can strip a bait from the hook. It takes but a second for a hungry bergall or crafty tog to home in on a piece of green crab and strip it from the hook. If you are busy kibitzing with the guy or gal standing at your shoulder, you won't even know the bait has been stolen! Sea bass and scup are not as adept at stripping a bait from the hook and will generally telegraph the strike up the line giving you opportunity to set the hook.

Unfortunately, for the inexperienced fisherman, when the bergalls and tautog are plentiful they will have stolen the bait before a less aggressive scup or humpback sea bass has a chance to react.

Every successful bottom fisherman I've know had his or her own way of presenting a bait. Most of the really good fishermen "feel" the bait as it plunges into the depths. By allowing the line to play out through your fingers, you'll feel the rat-tat-tat strike of a greedy bergall and can try to take the bait away or engage the reel to set the hook. You'll lose a lot of bait, but the bergalls will know they aren't fooling with a duffer!

Tautog will normally pick up a bait with their front teeth and then pass it back to the crushers located at the base of their throat. The pick-up is usually telegraphed up the line as a gentle tug and will alert you to the fact that a fish has discovered the bait. By waiting a moment for the second and more pronounced strike, before setting the hook, you will enjoy a much greater percentage of hook-ups.

this technique will not work when baiting with fiddler crab, sand bugs or soft baits. The first hit will usually be powerful enough to strip the hook. If you are not concentrating, you won't be ready to react quick enough to catch the tautog before he has stolen

(Continued on next page.)

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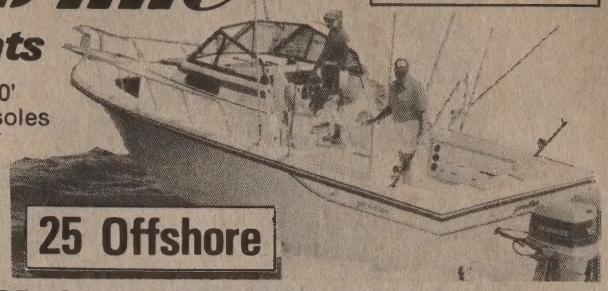

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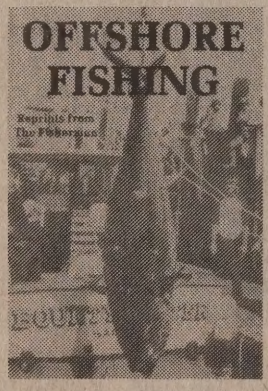

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the bait.

Fall run bottom fish are normally more aggressive than those caught during the summer months. Water temperature and sea conditions can be critical to enjoying a successful or poor day of bottom fishing. As water temps slump with the coming of wintry weather, all species of saltwater fish will feed heavily as they attempt to store up fat to carry them through the long, cold winter months.

Sea bass, tautog and porgy will feed heavily when ocean water temps are in the upper 40 and low 50 degree range, but may "turn off" when temperatures rise to the upper 50 or 60 degree area or drop below 45 degrees.

As noted previously, there is a knack to hooking bottom species. A rough sea will cause the boat to rise and fall at a much greater rate, making it near impossible to feel the hits. As a result, even the experienced fishermen will not catch as many fish as they might under more ideal sea conditions.

There are hundreds of sunken wrecks and broken bottom areas close to all New York and Long Island inlets and basins that will produce exceptionally good bottom fishing throughout the fall and early winter. Some wrecks are well known, others well guarded secrets, shared only by party and charter boat skippers who derive their living from the sea. It is always possible to luck into a "secret" hotspot that is loaded with bottom fish, but I would not rely on this hit or miss approach to late season bottom fishing.

A much better solution is to purchase coastal navigational charts such as those available through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administraiton (NOAA) or other charts produced locally by experienced captains who know their home waters. There are also books, brochures and Loran C listings of local area sunken wrecks.

One such source, De Mapo Enterprises, 1204 Avenue U, Suite 1231, Brooklyn, NY 11229, includes 60 of the area's hottest wrecks, reefs and fishing spots on a 4X5½ inch waterproof laminated card that can be stored on the boat or in a tackle box for immediate access.

Another suggestion, and one I've used in the past, is to visit the local library. You'll find some out of print books that list little known wrecks. Although you cannot take these older books from the library, you can jot down the location of wrecks and compute them from Lat/Lon to Loran C numbers.

There's plenty of excellent bottom fishing to be had in the coming weeks. It is up to each individual to follow whatever route necessary to cash in on the action. Some of us will keep the boat in the water until the final curtain call; others will opt for a day aboard one of the party or charter boats. Either way, on your own or with the help of a savvy captain, good fishing is virtually guaranteed!

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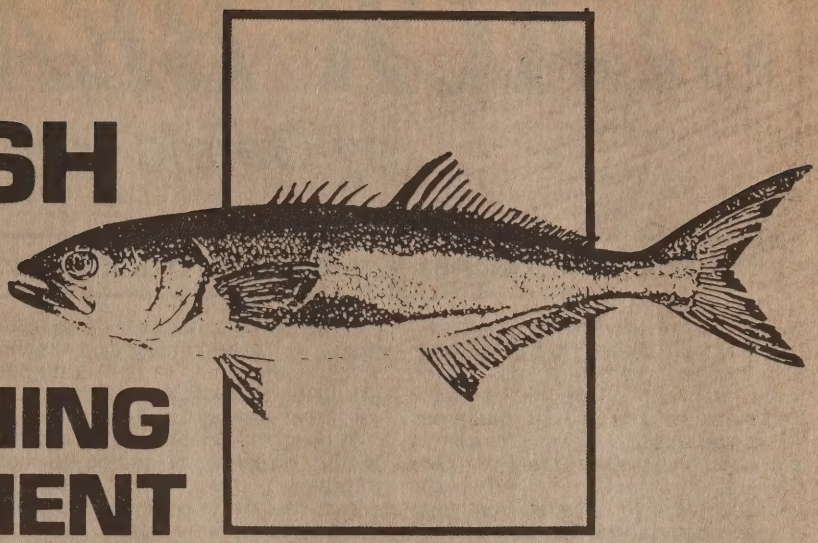

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BLACK BEACHES

by Gerald Hahn

North Shore beaches are ripe with blackfish as the leaves begin to fall.

Many surf fishermen favor Long Island's vast ocean side, but other people regard the Sound side as even more intriguing. Here on the North Shore, an estuary fed by numerous rivers and streams extends for almost a hundred miles from the New York City line to Orient Point. When the Labrador ice sheet receded from what is now Long Island Sound, it left in its wake an accumulation of sedimentary deposits and jagged boulders. These, in turn, soon attracted marine vegetation and various bottom organisms, such as mussels, barnacles and crabs. Rich in plankton and relatively shallow, the Sound is both a nursery for young fish and a feeding ground for larger species.

Among the Sound's larger species is the blackfish or tautog, a non-migratory bottom fish that spends the winter months in a dormant state in deep local waters. When the water temperature reaches the mid-50s to mid-60s, blackfish move into the Sound and feed actively. This occurs twice a year, in spring and fall. Of the two blackfish runs, the one that occurs from late September through November is favored by most blackfish anglers.

Many Sound beaches offer excellent fall blackfishing during the fall months.

In many ways, blackfishing is more difficult than bluefishing. In the first place, Long Island Sound's inshore structure makes it difficult to retrieve a bottom rig. Furthermore, the tautog itself is not easy to catch. It is as cunning as its relative, the cunner. Tautog are quick to steal a bait, by tapping at it rapidly with their large conical teeth. And even when the fish is hooked, the battle is far from over; for it instantly dives to the jagged, cluttered bottom where it snags the rig. Thus, knowledgeable blackfish anglers bring along stout tackle consisting of a 9 foot surf rod and an intermediate-sized surf spinning reel comparable to the Shimano MLZ 50 which holds about 200 yards of 20 pound test.

Experienced fishermen also bring along plenty of rigs for fishing on the Sound. The rig begins with a #4 to #6 Virginia hook snelled to a 12 inch leader of 40 pound test. This blued hook, with a hollow point and a kirbed bend, has a short bite that is tailor made for the blackfish's small, tough mouth. The small, though strong point, is also perfect for securing the blackfish's favorite prey, a hard-shelled crab. Two of these hooks are tied in tandem and secured to a dropper loop about 2 inches above an end loop for a 2 to 4 ounce bank sinker. In such places as Wildwood's east end, however, where the terrain is very rough, a single hook rig makes more sense. As does preparing rigs in advance, with a 12 inch leader of 30 pound test tied to a barrel swivel at the top. The hook (or hooks) and sinker are then secured to the leader, as described. This way, a new rig is easily tied on with only one knot—an improved clinch knot—that connects the running line to the swivel. The leader also saves line in the event of a snag, for it usually breaks at the swivel.

As mentioned, blackfish are particularly fond of crabs. The fish's mouth is endowed with an extra set of teeth in back for grinding hard-shelled prey before swallowing it. There are three kinds of crabs used for blackfishing: fiddlers, green crabs and hermit crabs. Of the three, the easiest to rig is the fiddler, a frisky little crustacean with colorful mark-

ings on the back. This crab is simply impaled through the rear of the shell and fished alive. Some people remove the large fiddler claw from the slightly larger and more colorful male crab and insert the point in the socket and out the rear. Wedging the barb of the hook inside the shell reduces break-offs.

Those who seek large bulldog blackfish favor green crabs, which are considerably larger than fiddlers. For this reason, all but the smallest are generally cut in half from head to tail and sometimes quartered. The crab piece, half white meat and half green shell and legs, is then impaled through the joints between the legs. Here, too, some people remove the legs and claws and use the sockets as hold-fasts for the hook. Small green crabs may be fished whole, however, although many anglers crack the shell slightly, by pounding it on a rock. This emits a flow of juices, although it stuns the crab and reduces its ability to move about. Green crabs may also be fished "nude," that is, without the shell and legs. Here, the white meat and gristle offer the maximum visibility, although the bait is difficult to secure. The point is inserted in the gristle, wherever it seems to hold best. This kind of bait works best when fishing a relatively uncluttered terrain.

The third crab, the hermit, is favored by fishermen in the eastern part of the North Shore. Indeed, this bait is difficult to find in bait shops elsewhere. It is also more expensive than the other two. Still, East End fishermen say it is the deadliest of all, especially on large blackfish. The crab is sold, in the shell, so to speak, that is, a shell it has borrowed for protection. For the hermit, like a soft-shelled crab, is vulnerable at all times and needs this extra coat or armor to defend itself. The shell is broken on a rock and the exposed hermit rigged in the belly and out its soft tail. This worm-like tail, actually the crab's abdomen, is the part blackfish relish most. So do humpback porgies and snowshoe flounder, which are taken here occasionally during the blackfish run.

Having prepared an adequate supply of rigs and selected the crab he wants to use for bait, the blackfish angler must now find a suitable spot. Blackfish do not move about very much; they find a cluster of submerged rocks or a likely mussel bed and stay close to home. Thus, if one spot doesn't produce in 20 minutes, the fisherman should move on to another. There are numerous beaches to try on the North Shore, and many of them are available to the fisherman after Labor Day. Try Northport, Sunken Meadow, Miller Place, Sound Beach, the Oregon Hills east of Mattituck Inlet, Mulford Point and Orient Point. These beaches have plenty of structure, so that the hiking surfcaster does not have to walk far.

Blackfish are most active around a tidal change. In general, I find the hours before high slack and a little after, the most productive. In the fall, fishing at dawn or dusk is not necessarily more productive than catching a tidal change in the middle of the day. However, autumn weather often affects the fishing. The best days on the Sound are when northwesterly breezes stir the water with a fine ripple. Northeasters should be avoided, though, since they bring inshore a vast amount of marine vegetation.

Find a likely spot and cast to it. Then let the rig settle to the bottom. Hold the rig absolutely still for awhile, then retrieve it slowly a few feet. Keep the line tight and work the new sport the same way as before. Sooner or later, you will see the rod tip throb as a blackfish starts pecking at the bait. If nothing happens thereafter, reel in and put on new bait. When the fish follows the taps with a powerful surge, raise the rod and holding it high, crank the reel quickly. This sets the hook and prevents the fish from diving to the bottom and snagging the rig. After this, the fish is easy to bring in.

In the fall, the North Shore turns orange with pumpkins spread out on golden fields. On the bottom of the Sound, however, the North Shore is blackened with bulldogs. This autumn, pluck a few out of Long Island Sound.

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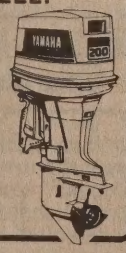

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SALTWATER BULLDOG

Part One—by Matt Ahern

The pugnacious tautog is a favorite target of sinker bouncers during the fall.

"He ain't much for looks; but he's a bulldog on our hooks!"

I first heard this amusing ditty nearly 60 years ago while serving as an apprentice mate aboard a party boat anchored off Sea Bright, New Jersey. Not only were the words aptly descriptive, but the handful of passengers aboard that day were actually catching bulldog blackfish. For the record, I can recall few fish under five pounds. It was a memorable blackfishing day, perhaps the best I've ever had and eventually, I'll write it up in one of my Old-Timer stories.

But for now, let's see what there is about this finny character that causes dedicated fishermen to sing its praises.

If you are one of those fishermen who find blackfish easy to catch, I have but one word to say: "Congratulations!" You are either a superb bottom fisherman, or one of those rare talented fellows who inherently know what to do without prior knowledge of the subject. In the business world, those who fit the latter description are called geniuses.

But I have met multitudes of superb bottom fishermen, bottom fishermen who know the fishing game backwards, forwards, upside down, sideways and any other position you can think of. And most of these fellows cheerfully admit this finesse came as a result of a deep love for and an abiding interest in our fishing game.

They also admit that not until they learned how to catch blackfish did the realization come that they were merely skimming the surface of the pool of knowledge required to become proficient in the art of sinker bouncing. It wasn't until they got to the bare bones of blackfishing that these fellows became master fishermen. When they learned how to catch the wily blackfish, then, and only then, did the bottom fishing game become duck soup—for them!

Scoff if you wish—for that is your privilege. But I would think twice before doing so. For an up-and-coming fisherman to lightly take or ignore the combined consensus of master fishermen is to remain a frustrated, mediocre bottom fisherman.

Hard words? Yes, indeed. But you better believe them.

I have never seen or known a crackerjack sinker bouncer who

wasn't first a crackerjack blackfisherman. All nonsense, you say? And wit the same derisive breath you relate the times when all you did was put a baited hook on bottom and up would come the desired fluke, flounder, or what-have-you. Of course you did—and so have thousands of other fishermen. But what happened on those days when those hoped-for fluke, flounder, or what-have-you decided to put on their finicky act?

I'll tell you exactly what happened. In the midst of your frustration, along came this fellow fisherman who plunked himself down close by, a fellow who made tentative casts to get the "feel" of things, or whatever he considered necessary to test the existing conditions—and in less than five minutes this fellow was dropping one fish after another in his bucket—those very same fish you swore didn't exist five minutes before.

Sound familiar? If you've been fishing any length of time and having minimum success, I'm sure it does.

Now, I hope you didn't think that fellow was "lucky." If you did, I have only this to say: unless you change your convictions, I'm afraid there's no hope for you. Again, hard words; but you had better believe them.

Let me tell you a story to bring this out.

Did you ever know or hear of a fisherman who excelled so well at the game he was actually embarrassed to catch fish if it meant doing so would emphasize another fellow's lack of expertise? I did. His name was Matt Smith, and the only reason I use his name now is because Matt has been gone for many years and I don't think he would be embarrassed by its disclosure. (Are you listening, Matt?)

When I first met Matt he was already in his late forties, while I was but a mere tad barely in my teens; but we hit it off pretty well—especially when you consider that I was a rank amateur at the fishing game and he was a past master. Quiet and unassuming, cultured and kind, was Matt Smith. Truly, if ever there existed a fisherman who hid his light under a bushel, it was Matt.

Matt was the type of person who should you, for instance, assert that fluke were easy to catch, would carefully refrain from comment, and then subtly lead you to his way of thinking in such a manner that one had no inkling or awareness of the transition. One learned, for instance, that fluke were easy to catch—sometimes; and one also learned fluke could be difficult to catch most times. And—of most importance—why that paradox was so.

I relate these personal things about Matt for better understanding of what follows.

One late-September day, Matt and I decided to make a trip to Sheepshead Bay and fish from the bay wall. My interest lay in the late-season snapper fishing, while Matt had more lofty plans for the good sized blackfish he so dearly loved to catch. I guess we

Greg Nisito of Shakespeare Fishing Tackle uses a net to land a bulldog black.

spent an hour or so without too much success as far as Matt's blackfishing was concerned. I managed a few snappers but Matt had yet to catch a decent sized blackfish.

As our bay fishing showed little inclination to improve, we decided to pack up and walk to the sea wall at Manhattan Beach and try there. I was agreeable enough, for the area often produced super snapper fishing and perhaps there might be better-sized blackfish on tap, although, as Matt pointed out, it was a little too early in the season for that.

At the time of which I write (1927), fishing from this particular area was permitted; there were no restrictions whatsoever. Today, I'm told, a chain link fence runs the entire length of the area and the "No Fishing" sign is up. Too bad if this is so, for many a fine fluke, sea bass and porgy I caught there, with little, if any, competition from other anglers.

And so it was when we arrived after that boring walk through those long residential blocks which separate bay from ocean. (Matt had no car.) No more than the expected handful of fishermen were scattered along the length of sea wall. But unfortunatelly for my companion, the area he planned to fish was already occupied by two fishermen. This spot was the only one in the immediate vicinity known to harbor blackfish.

Matt had told me previously that he was certain the remains of a small boat or some type of wreckage lay in that particular spot, an area that consisted mostly of mussel beds. Matt said it was a haven for blackfish. But as I say, the site necessary for casting to this spot was already occupied and Matt, of course, was too much of a sportsman to even remotely interfere with someone else, no matter how desperate he might be to fish.

We watched for awhile, but saw no action. "You fish, Matt," my friend told me as he selected a comfortable spot on which to sit. "These fellows

(Continued on next page.)

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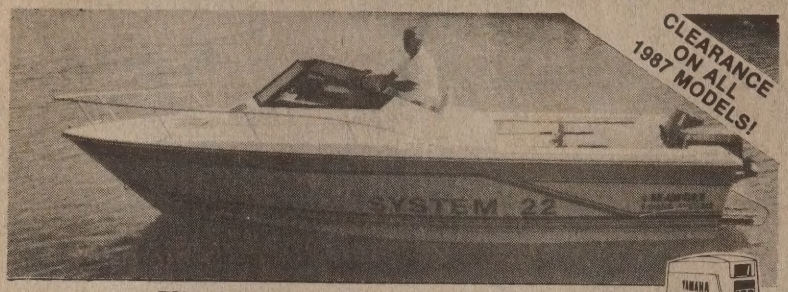

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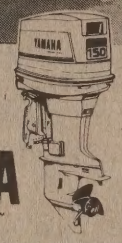

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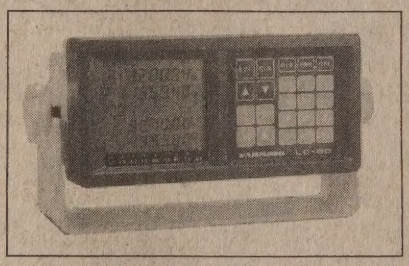

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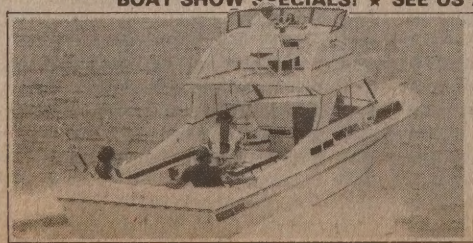

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don't seem to be doing too well. Maybe they'll give up. If they do, I'll give it a try."

I began fishing and in-between snappers, I kept a weather-eye on our two erstwhile fishermen. Not doing too well was an understatement, for I didn't see a fish come up. And as Matt had predicted, they eventually began to make preparations to leave. Then, and only then, did he make clear his intention to move in.

"You are wasting your time, friend," one fisherman said. "There's not a blackfish to be had." Evidently we weren't the only ones who knew about that blackfish spot.

"Could be," Matt replied. "We'll see."

"Two bucks says you don't connect," challenged the other fisherman, who though disgruntled seemed a sport to boot.

This promise of excitement and challenge was too much for me to continue snapper fishing. I lay my rod aside and joined in. "You're gonna lose your money, mister," I told the sport.

"Maybe yes, maybe no, sonny," the sport replied, "but I don't think so. We've been here since sunup without a fish."

Well, there's no further need to elaborate. Within five minutes, Matt lifted the first blackfish onto the rocks, to be followed by three more in rapid order. These fish weren't large, no more than two pounds tops. The disgruntled sport was as good as his word. He shook his head in wonderment, muttered something about now he'd seen everything, and handed Matt two dollars.

"Give it to the kid," he was told. And I was in two dollars, which in those days was a gold mine.

Now this story is a prime example of what I mean about blackfishing. I don't know how much experience those two fellows in the long ago had at the time (they weren't beginners by a long shot), but whatever the amount of that experience, it wasn't enough to dig out fish not in a biting mood. But for a master fisherman such as Matt Smith, there was no difficulty at all. It was duck soup.

And this is the way it is for those fishermen who possess the ability of which Matt was a shining example. It makes no difference to such fishermen what kind of fish they seek—if they can be caught, they will surely catch them. But as Matt told me one time as we dissused this, it wasn't until he became proficient at the art of blackfishing that he also became a truly confident fisherman. And this is exactly what master fishermen of my acquaintance tell me today.

Therefore, if you, or a buddy, is a Doubting Thomas, doubt no more. Learn to catch the wily blackfish, and all those bottom feeders you desire so much will go into your bucket with such regularity, it will positively amaze you.

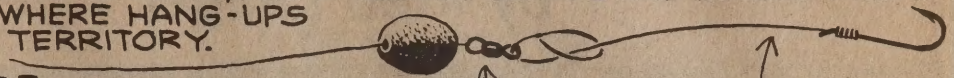
Next week we'll get into exactly how to do that.

BACK TO BASICS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

THE BLACKFISH SEASON PEAKS IN OCTOBER AND THESE BOTTOM FISH ARE CAUGHT AROUND DOCKS, REEFS AND WRECKS WHERE HANG-UPS GO WITH THE TERRITORY.

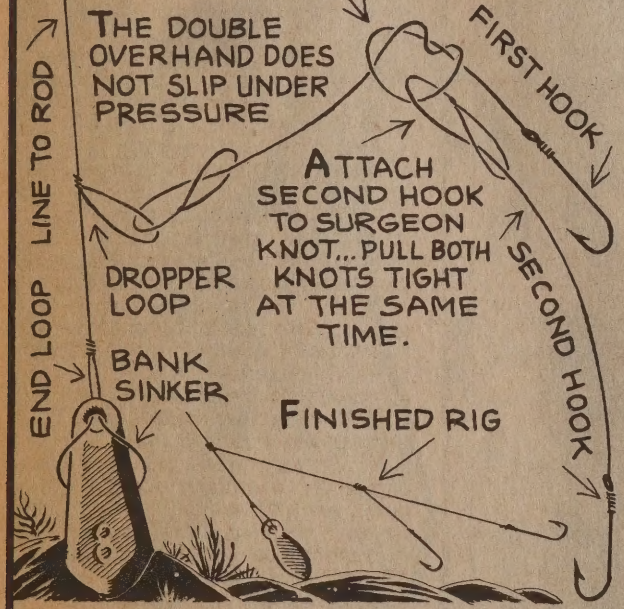
A BLACKFISH RIG WITH LESS HANG-UPS BY USING A 3-4 OZ. EGG SINKER, BARREL SWIVEL AND SINGLE HOOK.



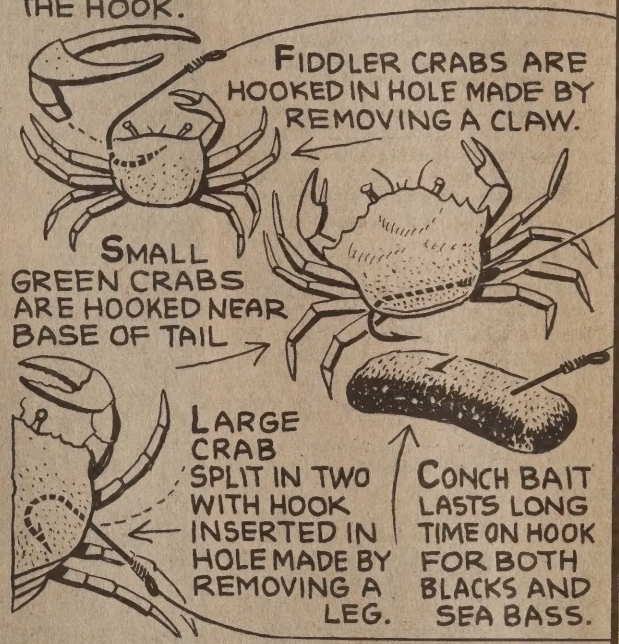
NO-HARDWARE TWO-HOOK BLACKFISH RIGS ARE LESS LIKELY TO HANG UP, BUT BE PREPARED WITH EXTRA HOOKS AND SINKERS. THE SECOND HOOK DOUBLES YOUR CHANCES BOTH FOR FISH AND SNAGGING BOTTOM.

THIS RIG, WHEN USED OFF THE STERN OF AN ANCHORED BOAT, CAN BE "WALKED" IN THE TIDE FAR TO THE REAR SPOTS.

FIRST HOOK IS ATTACHED TO DROPPER LOOP ABOVE SINKER AND A DOUBLE OVERHAND (SURGEON'S KNOT) IS TIED LOOSELY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE LEADER


THE DOUBLE OVERHAND DOES NOT SLIP UNDER PRESSURE
FIRST HOOK
ATTACH SECOND HOOK TO SURGEON KNOT... PULL BOTH KNOTS TIGHT AT THE SAME TIME.
SECOND HOOK
LINE TO ROD
END LOOP
DROPPER LOOP
BANK SINKER
FINISHED RIG

BEST BAITS ARE FIDDLER AND GREEN CRABS, BUT BLACKS ALSO BITE ON CLAMS, WORMS AND SHRIMP. PIECES OF TOUGH CONCH LAST A LONG TIME ON THE HOOK.


FIDDLER CRABS ARE HOOKED IN HOLE MADE BY REMOVING A CLAW.
SMALL GREEN CRABS ARE HOOKED NEAR BASE OF TAIL
LARGE CRAB SPLIT IN TWO WITH HOOK INSERTED IN HOLE MADE BY REMOVING A LEG.
CONCH BAIT LASTS LONG TIME ON HOOK FOR BOTH BLACKS AND SEA BASS.

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SAVE SMALL BLACKS AND KEEP ALIVE. THEY ARE EXCELLENT BAIT FOR LIVE-LINING BIG BASS AND WEAKFISH IN DEEP HOLES AT SLACK TIDE... TIE TREBLE HOOK DIRECTLY TO LINE.

BLUES IN THE NIGHT

by Fred Laager

Rich Mouton and I were launching my yellow dory "Nugget" late in the afternoon just when most boaters were calling it quits for the day. Putting the boat in the water was a fast operation and it gave us a good feeling not having to wait on line at the ramp, a feeling sort of like the one you get while watching the rest of the world commuting westbound on the Long Island Expressway as you speed to the east. We knew instinctively that, with the lessening of the traffic on the water the fish would be biting and we grew selfishly excited thinking that, if we connected on some fish this late in the day, we would most likely have them all to ourselves for the rest of the night.

Slowly we cruised out of the harbor of Mount Sinai. Rounding the point we could see the surfcasters on shore getting their gear ready for the night's fishing, rigging one pole with a chunk of bunker and another with a plug. Anxiously they waited for us to pass hoping that we were the last boat out and that the fish would soon begin to bite. We passed bunker slapping the water here and there, scattered by the day's activity and we headed west along the beach toward Belle Terre where the fishing had been hot only two nights before.

We were going to be fishing close to shore in water less than 15 feet deep, so I put the engine on slow idle as we sneaked in toward the beach amid a mix of submerged and looming boulders. Just before setting the anchor I killed the motor and paddled the last 30 feet or so making no noise that would frighten the fish feeding in the wash of the surf. Rich set the anchor and for a couple of minutes we readied our gear and watched the sun dip below the western edge on the Sound, silhouetting a large sailboat cruising off Old Field Point.

Rich was using a light spinning outfit rigged with 8 pound line and I suggested that a blue and white Atom popper would be the perfect match for the rod. On another stick I rigged a whole bunker, weighted it with a rubber core sinker and let it drop to the bottom not 10 feet away while I rigged a popping rod with a black and gold swimmer. We covered all the bases. The bluefish might be eating bunker in which case the baited rod would connect or they might be on the feed for snappers which would make the two lures the main targets. Luckily, the fish wanted all three—bluefish not being too finicky when it comes to eating.

Rich was the first to connect. In the first 10 minutes of darkness he made

Rich Mouton with a nighttime blue.

three casts with his light "fresh-water" outfit. The first two casts were made parallel to the beach while the third landed practically on the shore. Slowly, Rich edged the popper on its way into the wash and it began its journey toward the boat. Pop, pop, pop in the waning twilight the popper skipped along and we could only see the wake it left behind, illuminated by the glow of the moon over the bluff.

Suddenly, a splash! Instantly the fish had taken the lure and left a series of circular waves behind where he had smashed the popper. Quickly the bluefish sounded and headed toward the deeper water of Mount Misery Shoal on his first run. Shaking and jerking its head wildly like all bluefish do, the monster had inhaled the diminutive lure presented to him, ran first to the north, cut westward and then ran east. After 10 minutes of give and take the fish came to the surface some 100 feet away, jumped and tail-walked and tried unsuccessfully to shake the hooks that had caught him on the side of the mouth.

But within 15 minutes it was over. The fish's strength finally gave out and Rich's skill at playing him prevailed. Reluctantly, the fish came alongside the gunnel exhausted and ready for landing. Gingerly, Rich grasped him by the tail and brought him into the boat placing him on the deck. Luckily I had a small flashlight along with me which made the job of removing the hooks from the fish's mouth a safe and easy chore. Unfortunately, this fish was hooked badly and was bleeding excessively, so Rich

decided that this one would be kept for supper.

Removing the hooks from the jaws of a big and toothy bluefish can usually be accomplished by one person, but at night, when one's reactions are slowed due to poor lighting, it is best to have another angler along to help with the chore.

After removing the hooks from the fish we put him on ice in the cooler just in time to watch the rod that was baited with bunker bend over as a big fish ran with the bait. Another bluefish was on! Later, after boating three fish on bunker, the swimming plug I had been using was hit, proving that bluefish will attack a variety of baits and lures even at night.

Seeking bluefish at night requires planning and it is always best to make a scouting trip to unfamiliar areas you intend to fish during daylight hours. In the light of day obstructions such as boulders, sunken piers, gill net pylons, iron works, sand bars, sunken moorings or lobster pot buoys can be located and mapped, either mentally or on paper. Knowledge of where these obstructions are will always help in preventing damage to your boat or prevent you from walking over a dropoff while surfcasting. In addition to the safety factor, it always helps to know where all the submerged rocks are so that your casts can be made accurately to these fish holding structures. It also is beneficial to know where moorings and gill nets are so that hooked fish can be played away from these hazards.

Before venturing off in the darkness, all equipment should be checked and put in perfect working condition. The night hours are no time to be oiling up a reel, working with sand that is caught between the spool and housing of your spinning reel, pulling out a snarl in the line or rummaging through the bird's-nest in the tackle box looking for the lure you thought you put in there the last time out. Clean and organize your tackle. Grease your reels and tighten all loose screws and nuts prior to your nocturnal jaunts. It is hard enough to land a good fish under the cloak of darkness fishing with the best of gear, but being disorganized and ill prepared will put you at even more of a disadvantage and really hurt your odds of making a good catch.

Fishing among the daytime crowds must have its advantages, though I must admit I've yet to realize what those advantages are. I've fished in crowds at the Butterfish Hole, the Sore Thumb, the Virginia Wreck; at Montauk, Smith's Point, Ashroken, Cedar Beach, Mount Misery and Moriches and can only remember a few times when I caught anything worth remembering. Ask me about my large catches while fishing in a crowd and I'll give you a blank stare in return. Ask me about the times I've caught fish at night, after most everyone else had called it quits for the day and I'll bend your ear with story after story of my successes.

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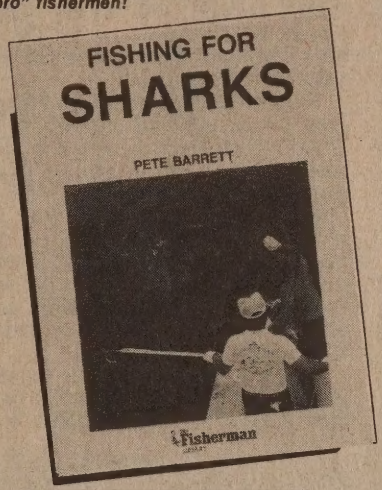

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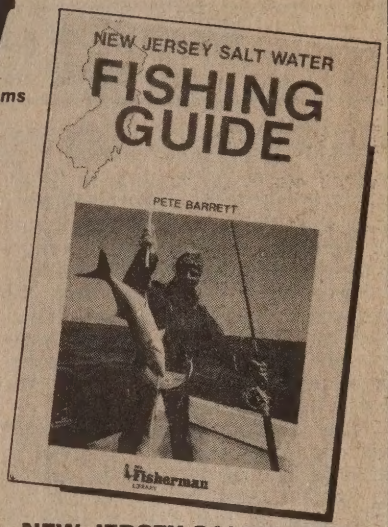

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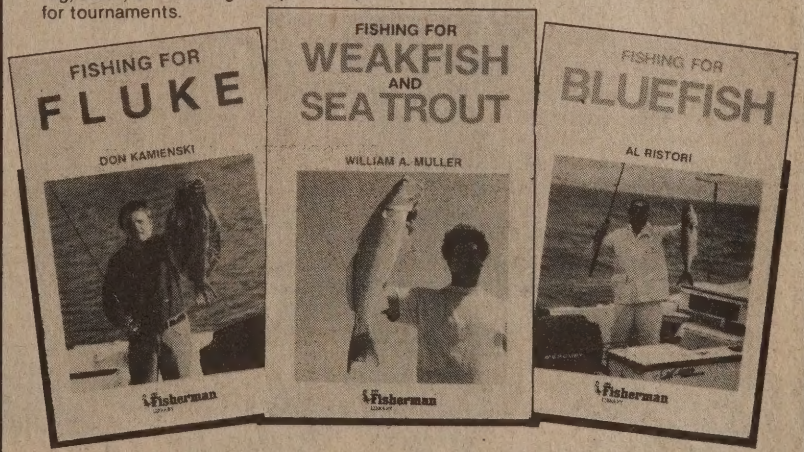

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LEADHEAD VARIATIONS

by Chris Cavalski

Readers out catching fall schoolies with single hook lures might find some of the author's ideas useful.

Inshore jigging does not always mean a straight up and down process. That method works well enough at times, but when the bait is loosely shoaled or when the fish you're after are slightly off their feed, working a jig in a more unconventional manner will take fish.

Borrowing a few pages from the freshwater jigging book and transplanting them into the saltwater volumes concerning fluke, weaks, large porgies and small bass has meant fish for me.

First, let me say that using just a plain jig in the manner I'm about to describe isn't as effective as using a jig that has been dressed with a fish strip, a small bait fish, a piece of squid, or a rind. And, secondly, jigging in any manner other than vertical in water deeper than 60 feet hasn't brought me much success. These two conditions out of the way, let's get into the mechanical variations of fishing jigs.

First is bottom skipping. Here the lure is cast out and allowed to sink. Once it's on the bottom, don't let it rest but begin retrieving it with short jerks of the rod so that the lure "skips" along the bottom with rapid motion. It is important not to move the lure too far—only 6 to 10 inches at a time. It is also important not to get the lure too far off the bottom so the amount of motion applied to your rod tip shouldn't be excessive.

Actually, it is probably better to work your rod back and forth from the side instead of up and down in this style of retrieve for such a rod position keeps the lure near the bottom and makes it appear more like a morsel of bait struggling for cover. The only drawback here comes from the side arm rod position. From my experience when skipping a jig the majority of strikes are broadside on the lure. Why this occurs, I don't know, but few are the number of fish that take a skipping jig from behind.

Now, hitting the jig crosswise is all right if the strike occurs opposite the direction you are working your rod in. For example: if you are working your rod to your right side and the fish strikes from your right to your left, feeling the strike and line slack are no problems. Your line is already semi-taut to taut, you can both see and feel the strike and your rod angle and motion are such as to afford you optimum leverage for a good hook set.

If the strike comes in the opposite direction things are a little different. The fish is moving either with or in a vector to your line and your leverage point for a smart hook set. Strikes at this angle are not only difficult to recognize but are hard to react to quickly enough to constantly ensure good hooking.

I've found that the first indication that my lure has been taken at this angle is any loss of tension on my line. When this happens I immediately pivot to my left, swing my rod quickly in the same direction and down while taking in line with my reel. The moment I feel the slightest pressure on the line I stop reeling and sharply set hard. All this must be accomplished very quickly or the fish will be lost. I'd much rather all my strikes come right to left, but fish have a mind of their own and sometimes I wonder if they know I'm side-arming my line by the number of strikes that occur left to right.

A second variation to jig fishing is jumping the rig. Here side-arming isn't a problem, for the rod can be held and fished in the conventional manner. What the process involves is again casting the lure out and letting it hit bottom. Once that occurs the retrieve begins. Unlike the short, jerky motion that keeps the lure close to the bottom when skipping the jig, here the rod is pumped.

Starting with the rod tip being held nearly into the water once the lure is on the bottom you raise the tip and bring the rod itself toward you until it

Weakfish are suckers for a properly presented leadhead jig.

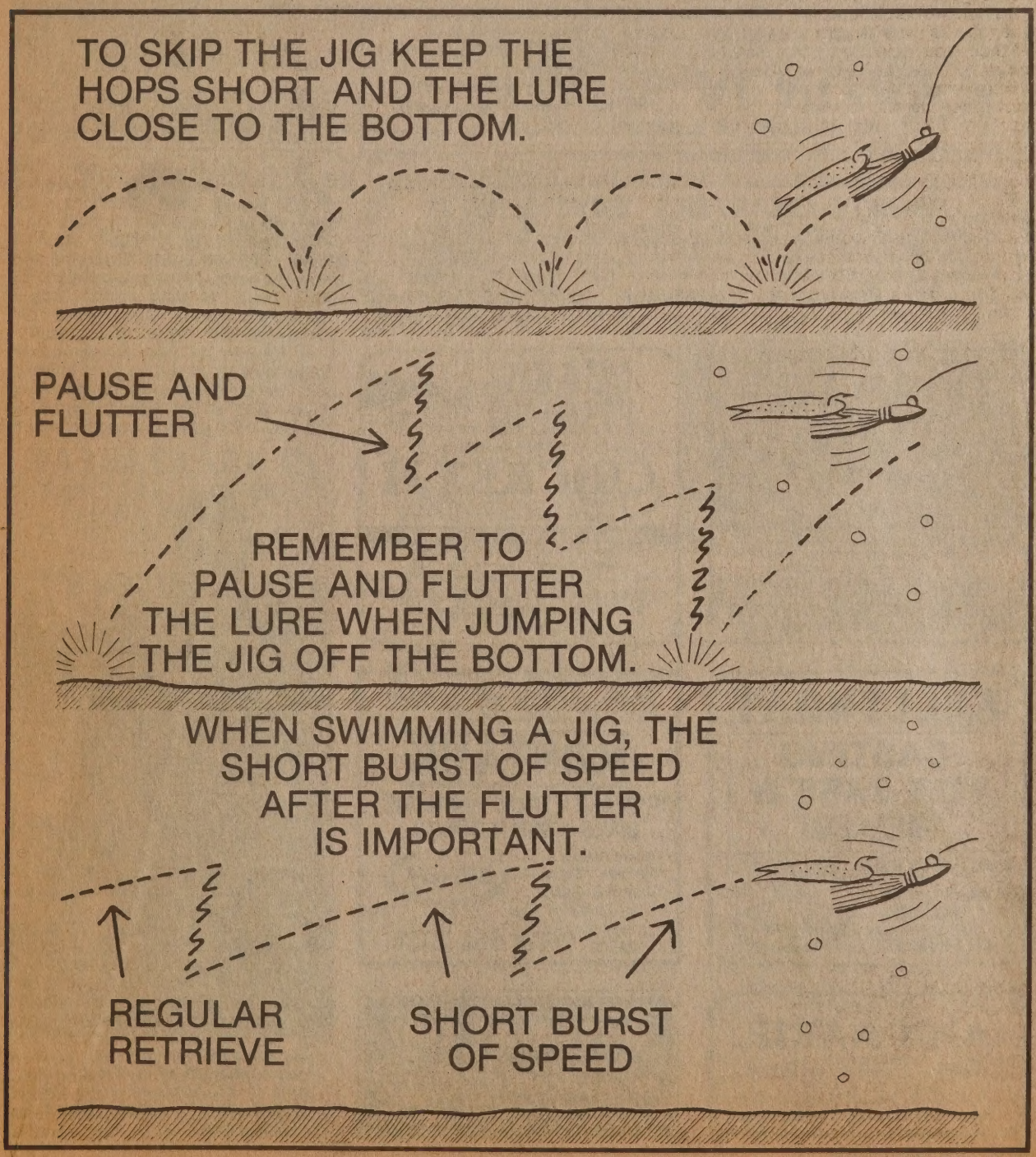
nearly touches your body. Once this position has been attained, quickly lower the rod to the two o'clock position, retrieving line while still allowing the lure to flutter. Then wrist jerk it up to the one o'clock position and retrieve and flutter it down to the three o'clock position. Jerk it back up to the two o'clock position, then retrieve and flutter to the starting point with the rod tip pointing towards the water.

It is important to constantly be alert through the entire procedure for if a fish strikes the jig when it is fluttering down and you don't react quickly by raising the rod tip once more your chances of connecting on the strike are nil. Therefore, it is to your benefit to concentrate completely on the line when the lure is fluttering and moving downward. Any change in slack or lack of it or any variation in the line's direction signals a fish has mouthed your jig and that calls for a reaction on your part.

I've found it a good idea to practice working your lure in a fishless area for awhile just to get to know the line's action with the lure. Then once I notice any difference when fishing, there is no hesitation or doubt, I set the hook and most times it means a fish that would have otherwise taken and spit out my lure without me being aware of it.

Lastly, swimming a jig, casting it out and working it with a pause and flutter motion as one would work a spoon can be very effective when bait is observed on or near the surface. Here, a semi-smooth retrieve punctuated with an occasional pause to allow the jig to sink a short distance works very well if the lure is then snapped back with a quick burst of speed before the regular retrieve is resumed.

But that's what I've found so far. Who's to say there isn't a much better way; so don't limit yourself. Experiment! Varying my jigging has gotten me more fish and it will be the same for you.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East End REPORT

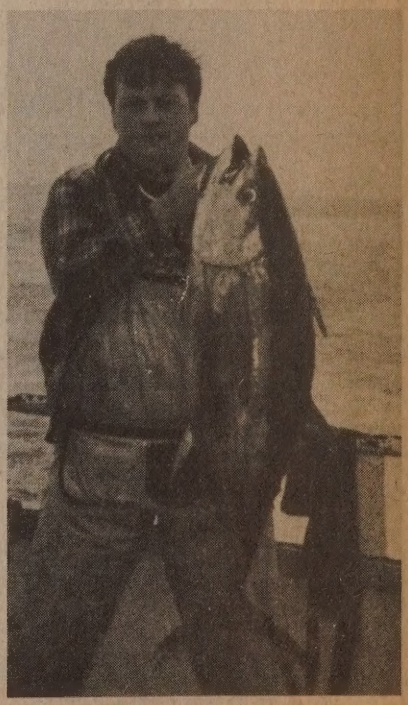
with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

Those who were able to get out between windstorms found plenty of fish waiting. Offshore, blue, mako and thresher sharks, with a few tuna were located, while furious action with blues and bass was on hand for inshore anglers. Porgy catches are increasing in numbers and size; blackfish are starting; flounder are stirring. A couple of days with light winds would be welcome!

MONTAUK

Fluke catches took a nose dive when the winds arrived on Wednesday. However, Capt. Bob Fritz made the most of Monday's trip, catching a 17 lb. doormat on his boat, "Toots." Since Bob was using 16 pound test line, the catch will be submitted to the IGFA for a line class record. This is the second pending world record fluke caught on the "Toots" this season.

A forecast of bad winds limited Saturday's fishing trip; on Sunday, very few boats sailed in the gale force winds. Bob, of **Star Island Yacht Club** did hear of good tuna caught in the



Sixteen-year-old Michael Cannon connected with this 64 lb. tuna on the September 4-5 trip aboard the Montauk based, "Viking Star."

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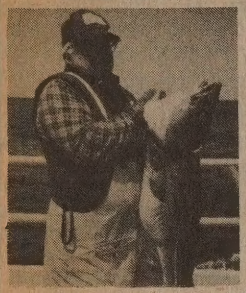

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Canyon during the week.

Because the Canyon tuna catches have been so great, Capt. Paul Forsberg will continue **Viking** tuna trips through October if there is any interest. Call the office for details. Mr. Jimmy Williams of Patchogue has made at least four trips for Noman's Land porgies and commented that while he was not high hook, he caught at least 75 porgies per trip. Captain Forsberg related that trips will continue through October 12th and that during the past week, all fish caught were jumbos with a few large size. On Sunday, a porgy trip was made to Block Island, where a good catch of large porgies was made. Although night bluefishing is great, daily sailings will continue through October 12th, after which bluefish trips will be made on Saturday nights only.

While the weekend's Georges Banks trip was cancelled because of the storm, John Girolamo reported the results of Monday's trip on the **Viking Starship**, calling it fantastic, with many double and triple headers landed, adding up to spectacular catches. Bill Tully copped the pool with a 43 lb. cod, the largest of 145 cod. Wayne Pritchett took second pool with a 41 lber. Dennis O'Donnell, Tom Cod and Sean Lynth combined for 264 cod. John and Tom Ostrowski paired for 152. Ken McCue and Walter Rahmer had 168 cod. Many anglers counted their fish to report to us through John. John Gaudio caught 81; Lou "Hooks" Pow 118; John Girolamo 77; Dennis Muhlamforth 78; Norbert Schneider 58; Bill Koch 115; Kenny Drace 139; Joe McCafferty 63; Rick McAllister 64; Robert Murphy 68. Next trip is scheduled for October 12th. Reservations and deposit are necessary.

Gail, speaking for **Tuma's Dock and Tackle**, spoke of unbelievable catches of blues and bass, with great porgy action before the weekend. A couple of impressive sharks were seen on the dock, during the week as well. A 400 lb. thresher was caught on "Abracadabra," while a 313 lb. mako was landed on **King Wayne.**

Captain Dusty Dorzbacher spoke of nice catches of porgies on **Little Bear** during the week. On Thursday, Jerry Roundtree counted 80 porgies in his buckets, mostly large size, caught at the Light. Saturday's trip to Gardi-

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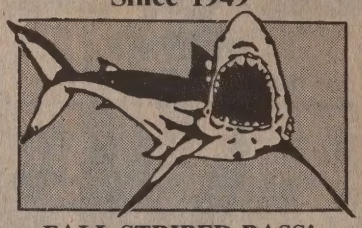

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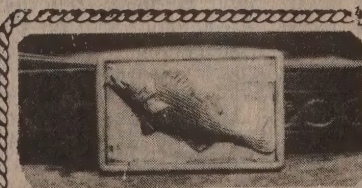

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ner's located nice scup since Nick and Janet Stavriotvos returned to Brooklyn with 109.

Anglers on the **Flying Cloud** also reported nice size porgies with an extraordinary amount of sea bass last week. Sal "Sudsy" hooked into 91 nice size scup on Saturday's trip, fishing local Montauk waters.

TJ commented on the activities of a couple of charter boats based at **Gone Fishing Marina**. On Friday, several dozen blackfish, top weight 7 lbs., were caught on **Fisherman II**, while 85 blues were caught on Saturday on a charter arranged by Mike Plaia of Stamford. Highlighting the catch was a 25 lb. bass landed by teenager Mike Jr.

Unreported last week was the catch of several bushels of porgies and sea bass to 3 lbs. made by Mike Contessa and that of 4 bushels of scup and sea bass to 2 lbs. made by John and Glenn Zilenski on the charter boat **Caprice**. On Saturday's charter trip with Jim Weimer and Ken Hoss, plenty of bluefish and school bass were caught jigging in Pollock Rip before trying for fluke on the south side.

Marina customers at **Gone Fishing** reported plenty of blues and bass caught on jigs at the Point during the week, with a few bass large enough to keep. Some good catches of blackfish have been made at Shagwong. Anglers on "Lala" which was launched at the marina, fished 20 miles south of the Point on Friday. The group returned with a 281 lb. mako that favored a bluefish fillet.

Although weather predictions were on the ominous side for Saturday, it turned out to be a beautiful day. Dick Modula and his group loaded up with 432 porgies to 3 lbs. on the charter boat **Julie III** with some blackfish and sea bass on the south side. Captain Ron Grandinetti reported loads of bluefish and some short stripers at the point as well.

Captain Michael Potts reported action with blue sharks early last week fishing off Block Island. On Tuesday, a charter arranged by Mr. Piasio fought two blue sharks to 200 lbs. Wednesday's charter with Mr. Willman, also encountered a pair of shark, the largest 256 lbs. Many false albacore with blues and stripers were caught trolling and casting at the point before the **Bluefin IV** returned to the dock. Thursday's trip combined casting and trolling with the Marxe group. Six bass were kept from about 50 caught with numerous bluefish and false albacore. On Friday afternoon's trip with the Schwenks 20 bass were released, about 80 bluefish caught on jigs and bucktails.

Makoto, Norman wright with Fred and Glenn Fellows lost count of the number of bluefish in the 8 to 12 lb. range, caught on the **Vivienne** on Thursday morning. However, highlighting the trip was a couple of 10 lb. weakfish, plus a good size bass caught by Makoto.

Captain King reported on a week's worth of trips on the charter boat

Dan Spagnolo whipped this 117 lb. yellowfin tuna back on August 8th aboard the Montauk charter boat, "Alyssa Ann."

King Wayne, resulting in a variety of fish. On Saturday, September 26th Ivan Krupit and his friends from Cop Op City bailed blues at Cartwright. Westly Grey hooked into a nice size cod at the bluefish grounds and got most of the fish in the boat. The remains of the cod (it was attacked by 19 lb. blues) weighed 25 lbs. The next day, Bill Boyles and members of the North Babylon Fire Department caught about 3 dozen fluke, six of them over 5 lbs. This past Wednesday many blues and bass were caught before trying the south side for fluke. Biggest fluke, caught by Captain King, weighed 10 pounds! Friday's shark trip with Ed Cominowski and his friends experienced a double header hook-up of football tuna and mako, both of which were landed. The mako which weighed 313 lbs., was caught by Kanny Coleman. On Saturday, plenty of blue shark, some to 300 lbs. were noted on the shark grounds. A stop at "Wayne's Ledge" found a few 5 to 8 lb. cod which managed to find the baits before the dogfish did. Plenty of blues and bass were caught on the way home.

SOUTH FORK

Captain Artie Lach reported decent blackfishing with a large amount of porgies on Saturday's trip on the **Wilhelric II.** Blues and bass are on tap on Monday's trips, while blackfish are the target from Wednesday through Sunday.

A pick-up in flounder catches in the Shinnecock Canal; a mix of blackfish, sea bass and porgies at the Ponquogue Bridge and Heady Creek, and a mixed bag in the Quogue Canal at Buoy 3, according to Thom at **Speck's Bait and Tackle.** Bass, mostly to 26 inches were trolled with bluefish at mid-week by anglers dragging wire outside the Inlet. Last Sunday, Capt. Bob Tangolics found lots of life on the Coimbra Wreck, returning with a cod of 30 lbs. on "Misty Blue."

A few boats based at **Sherry and Joe Coor's Best Boatworks** managed to sneak in a few hours on Saturday before the winds kicked up. Reverend Arnold loaded up with porgies fishing Heady Creek on "My Three Girls," while Joe and Dee Eisinger found a mix of porgies, blacks and a few flounder on "Haleakala" in the same area. Mike Sievery tried the Peconics, for a good catch of blackfish on "Spectacular."

Anglers based at **Mariner's Cove Marina** loaded up with bluefish during the week, according to Ron Arcate. There are a few slips in the marina suitable for in-water winter dockage. Call the marina for details.

Plenty of blues around, with bonito and small bass when weather permits safe fishing. Pretty good inshore action was talked about at **Altenkirch and Son** with some flounder at the Ponquogue Bridge as well as in the canal. Good blackfish catches were made off the jetty during the week. While snappers appear to have left the area, plenty of crabs are available, with the Quogue Canal a hotspot. Good sea bass catches were made both at the Bridge Wreck and to the

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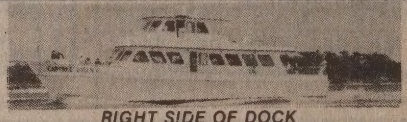

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Sharon Masters decked this 9½ lb. bulldog blackfish while porgy fishing on the Middle Grounds in Long Island Sound.

east off Guerney's Hotel.

Bob Hollander and his son Chris tried an **Al Feather's** glow flounder rig at the Shinnecock Canal on Saturday. Their catch totaled 7 flounder, 2 very large kingfish, a blackfish and 10 porgies which weighed from 1 to 1½ lbs. Tom Wasilewicz happily reported that he finally caught a nice bass, measuring 35½ inches. The keeper, the largest of 6 caught, fancied a 1 oz. **Feather Jig** at the Ponquogue Bridge Thursday night.

South Shore REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

Weather played havoc with the weekend fishing plans of many anglers. Saturday's gloomy forecast never did develop and instead turned out to be almost summerlike. There was a big heave on the ocean which kept boatmen from running off since mid-week and Sunday's rain and wind kept many boatmen in the barn. Mixed bag fishing still reigns for sinker bouncers with sea bass, porgies, blacks and flounder available. A last minute call Monday morning from Capt. Charlie Kennedy of the Capt. Joseph II revealed that the current cold snap had moved a new body of blackfish onto the F.I. Reef. Fares were enjoying an excellent shot of fish as we spoke.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

Capt. Ron Schleuter of the **Moriches** based open boat **Alma III** reported lots of porgies from ½ to 1½ pounds for fares this week. Some individual catches ranged as high as 100 porgies per man. Fishing is being done in the eastern reaches of the bay and a few decent blackfish are mixed with them. Sandworms and squid are taking the fish along with some sea bass.

The charter boat **Alma** fished a party headed by Ray Zink on Saturday. Capt. Russ Hagios reported that he fished to the west near Buoy 23 and the party put away a load of porgies. A few small sea bass and blacks were mixed with the porgies. Russ noted that there were also lots of blue claw crabs near the Smith Point Bridge and there has been some decent flounder action in the creeks and from local docks which bodes well for bay action.

Russ, who also skippers the charter boat **Shaman**, noted that there were tuna on the Virginia up through mid-week before all of the wind and rough

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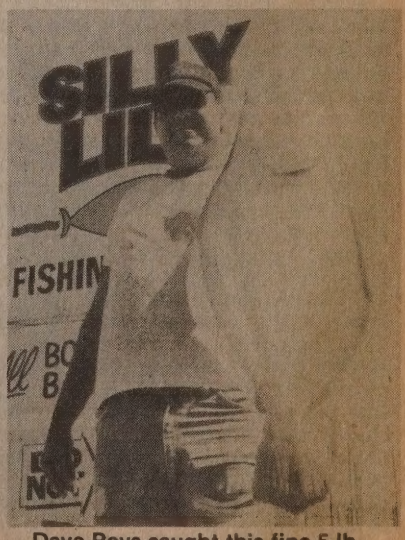
seas. Lots of blues in and around the inlet and still good bassing in the area. A reminder that Russ does have some fall dates available.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Over at **J & J Tackle** in **Patchogue**, Paul Graniello said that the local docks continue to provide good crabbing. Some big snappers still being taken at Beaver Dam Creek on spearing being fished on the bottom. A few small flounder beginning to stir at the docks as well. Concerning the weekend, Paul said he did sell a lot of blackfish bait but had no great reports. Mixed bags of porgies, sea bass and blacks still dominate the fishing. He knew of some good bluefish action on the Patchogue Grounds for jiggers and chummers during the week but no reports since due to a rough ocean. Moriches Inlet continues to produce lots of bass for trollers. Most are shorts but a few keepers are mixed with them. Wire line with umbrella rigs or bucktails has been the ticket. Some cows falling to live eels.

At **J & R Sports Center** in **Oakdale**, Dave Canale wrote Sunday off as a blow-out. Saturday saw some decent catches of blackfish made at Kismet and the R.M. Bridge. Fish to 5 pounds were weighed at the shop. A couple of guys mixed their time between fluke and flounder on Saturday and had a few of each with the flounder being taken at the Sore Thumb. Still some weaks in the 3-5 pound class being taken south of Heckscher on squid and sandworms. Crabs continue to be taken at the West Sayville dock but no word on any snappers this week.

Jim Southard at **Islander Canvas Bait and Tackle** in **East Islip** checked over some good blackfish scores this



Dave Roys caught this fine 5 lb. fluke on 8-12-87 while fishing out of Silly Lily Fishing Station in East Moriches.

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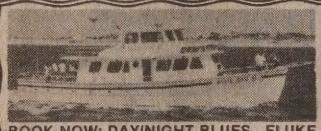

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week from the R.M. Bridge, Kismet and the old construction dock. On Thursday, Tony Aletti had 9 blacks to 7.6 pounds at the latter spot. Blues up to 11 pounds being taken on bunker chunks and butterfish on the last of the flood at the inlet. Some flounder up to about a pound being picked in the Sore Thumb Pocket and small bass being trolled at the inlet and along the beaches on wire line with umbrellas or bucktails.

Jim Romano at **Peppy's Bait and Tackle** in **East Islip** reported a real quiet weekend with lots of wind Friday, a bad weather report on Saturday and wind and rain on Sunday. During the week, Bob Bellini had a fair catch of blacks along with a 5 pound triggerfish at Kismet. On Saturday, Charlie Cappa and his friend Ed anchored up near the Wantagh Bridge and put away 8 flounder, a few porgies and 2 kingfish. Snappers are fading but there are still a fair number of crabs around in the bay.

From **Smokey's Tackle Shop** in **Bay Shore**, Carl Miller reported things have been real quiet from Friday to Sunday as a result of all the wind and a big heave on Sunday. Some pretty good blackfish catches being made when the weather is right at the R.M. Bridge, WR Buoy, Coast Guard Station and Kismet. A few flounder being taken at the Sore Thumb Pocket and in the deeper holes of the State Channel. Some big bass and weakfish continue to be livelined in Fire Island Inlet in the vicinity of the Old Construction Dock. The shop is well stocked with live eels. Carl closed by reminding that there is some excellent crabbing going on with traps and baited lines.

Noel Kappauf at **Captree Bait and Tackle** knew that boats did very good with blues offshore on Saturday despite a rough ocean. There were also some good blackfish catches checked in by baybound boatmen. Weather has been a big factor this week but a few fluke still being taken despite dropping temperatures. Some guys have made the switch to flounder. Snappers lingering on Fisherman's Walk and blackfish being picked from the Overlook and Robert Moses piers as well as the north side of R.M. #2 and the Barge on the north end of the R.M. Bridge. The Jones Beach piers have been producing a few fluke as well as flounder.

Capt. Charlie Kennedy of the **Captree** open boat **Capt. Joseph II** labeled Sunday a blowout. On Saturday, fares picked away at sea bass and some porgies with a big heave on the ocean. The skipper called via the marine operator on Monday morning to let us know that the cold snap had moved a new body of blackfish onto the F.I. Reef. Some fares had already put 8 to 10 nice blacks in their bags by 9:30 AM. Also some nice sea bass to 4 pounds and a few big porgies in the 1-3 pound class were being taken along with the tautog. The ocean had settled down considerably by the morning.

Capt. Gordon Roman of the open

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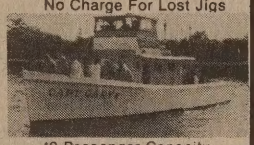

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Young Chris Wilson displays his first ever bluefish, a 9 pounder, caught at Cholera aboard Don Brenner's Plan B. Subscriber photo.

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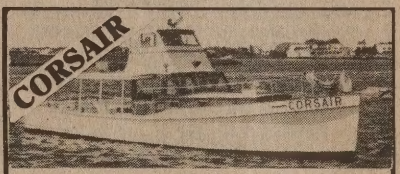

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—EXPERIENCE—

boat **Captree Queen** had his weekend fishing wiped out by wind and sea conditions. Saturday's trip was cut short by rough seas while Sunday's trip was never attempted. Weekday trips saw catches of up to 400 porgies and 250 sea bass on days with just 10 to 15 fares. There was also a gradual improvement in the number of blacks taken during the week. Two night bluefish trips were made during the week with 500 blues taken on each trip to the Patchogue Grounds. Most of the fish ranged from 6 to 10 pounds with pools up to 15.

Capt. George Tweedy of the open boat **Capt. Scotty 3** reported excellent bluefishing on Saturday and said the same for most of his weekday trips, both day and night. Fish are averaging 4 to 7 pounds with a few bonito and Spanish mackerel mixed in. The skipper has been working south of Patchogue and Cherry Grove.

A lot of crabs being taken out in the bay in traps according to John Gattuso at **Augie's Bait and Tackle** in **Babylon**. Some flounder being taken in the Sore Thumb Pocket with a pretty decent showing south of Good Sam. Some of these fish range to 2 pounds. Blackfish continue to be in good supply at Kismet when conditions are right. False albacore and bonito were trolled outside the inlet prior to all the rough weather. Same rough seas have eliminated any tuna reports. On the docks, snappers appear to be gone but there continues to be very good crabbing.

Mike Andreani at **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle** knew of some big bass, weakfish and blues being taken on live bait along the north shore of Robert Moses State Park. Blackfishing is good for those catching the turn of the tide at Kismet and the R.M. Bridge. Also some good catches at the western bridges. Flounder stirring in the Lindenhurst Cut and the State Channel at Gilgo. A couple of customers reported taking lots of crabs at Captree Overlook this week and a few big snappers remain on the docks. The last tuna report dated back to last Tuesday when the "Red Head" returned from the Virginia with a couple of fish in the 90 to 100 pound class. They also put away some nice cod while sitting atop the wreck.

Jimmy Schaefer at **Charlie's Bait and Tackle** in **Lindenhurst** spoke of blacks on Kismet Reef, bay wrecks and the R.M. Bridge. He looked over some fluke caught on Saturday between the Bridge and the Inlet but the life expectancy of this fishing is short. Flounder showing in the Thumb, Hemlock Cove and at Gilgo in the State Channel. Small porgies are spread throughout the bay. On Friday "Doc" Grell checked in with a load of decent sized porgies that he took on bloodworms. Back on Tuesday, Ray Appold and Noah Schechtel combined to take 25 blacks to 5½ pounds aboard 'Taffy's Toy' at Kismet. A reminder from Jimmy that the Shop does have live eels and a full stock of flounder bait and chum. Their few fall

hours are 7AM-7PM, weekdays; 6AM-7PM, weekends.

Speaking from **Bob's Bait and Tackle** in **Amity Harbor**, Bob Vitale said that the weekend was a quiet one with lots of wind Friday and Sunday and a bad weather forecast Saturday combining to keep fishing activity down to a minimum. He did know of some good blackfishing at the R.M. Bridge, Kismet, Wantagh Bridges and Short Beach. The 'Reel Affair' worked the Wantagh Bridge and returned with 30 nice blacks and told of returning 3 times that number. They also added a few sea bass to the catch.

Scott Molnar at **Edelman's** in **Farmingdale** thought that blackfishing remained pretty good at the Bridges and on Kismet Reef this past week. He noted a few flounder being picked from the Sore Thumb and the deeper reaches of the State Channel. Offshore action was wiped out from late last week through the weekend.

West End REPORT

with Stu Miller

What can you say about a weather pattern that doesn't give us much of a break hereabouts. A few fishable days get followed by extremely unfishable days and nights, with wind and rain doing somewhat of a job on us. However, the fish stocks seem to be abundant enough to the cauldron bubbling. Giant bluefish have been blitzing the entire length of Reynolds and Sloop Channel from the inlet to Zachs Bay, and we're talking here about fish to 20 pounds. They're chasing the bunker schools and are readily taking bunker baits offered and a lot of other things as well. Flounder were just fair, but catches are being filled out with sea bass and porgies inside. Weakfish catches are starting to be more noticeable mixed in with the blues. Blackfishing has been dynamite at all the bridges, reefs and rocks. Tuna activity prior to the lousy weather was good at the Canyon and Virginia wreck area. Snappers still good and BCCs fair.

WEST END BAYS/ JONES INLET

From **Wanser's Tackle in Seaford**, Marie tells of good blackfish catches for her customers at the three Wantagh bridges, but best at the Big M, fish to 5 lbs. on fiddlers and greens. Flounder classified as "okay," best in the deep holes around the bridges. An occasional fluke is still being picked and there have been

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Pat Sboto with one of 13 big blues she caught during a recent nighttime junket aboard the "Miss Point Lookout II."

decent catches of sea bass and porgies in the bay mixed with the flounder.

Over in **Wantagh**, Mike at **Causeway Tackle** said the best of the week was the exciting blackfishing in the bay, best all around the high, at the 2nd Wantagh, fish to 4½ lbs. on green crab. Blacks also did very well on strong incoming, said Mike. A few sea bass and porgies were mixed in. Wednesday and Thursday, the bluefish in the bay were incredible from Jones east to Zachs Bay in Sloop Channel. Fish ran 8 to 20 lbs. and were devouring live bunker bait or big surface plugs. There were also some 8 to 10 lb. weakfish mixed in with them. Fair numbers of small flounder were hitting dyed clam and bloodworms with the bridge areas producing best. Snappers still good at the 1st Wantagh, fish to 1 lb. Wantagh Park has also seen a very decent week of blue claw crabs off the bulkhead.

In the **Freeport** area, Paul at **Hudson Point Fishing Station** said prior to this week's weather, the canyon and Virginia Wreck were both hot for mixed bluefin and yellowfin tuna. He also knew of 6 giants taken at the Mud Hole early week. Fluke catches were extremely picky and small flounder along with a lot of porgies and sea bass will be caught inside, best at the bridges. Big choppers to 15 lbs. in the bay and in huge numbers, under the bunker schools.

Captain Richie Kessinger's **Starstream II** got out three days this week, with crowds slim and poor sea conditions a factor on the days sailed, catches were excellent on blues to 15 lbs. with all the action being close in at Cholera on bait and chum. These big blues will obviously be here for awhile yet, so now's the time to get in while the crowds are light and do battle with some of these monsters.

A call from the **Lady J Fleet** also said that even with the unstable weather, on trips sailed this week, catches were good. A tuna trip Thursday for Shakespeare Tackle worked the Mud Hole and had several 30 lb. BFTs and some false albacore. Pat said there were a lot of tuna around, but conditions were so bad, they couldn't be fished properly. The charter ended up the day bailing

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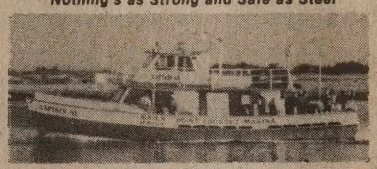

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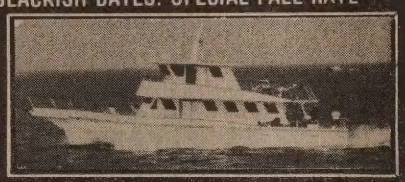

blues at one of Pat's favorite wrecks. Other bluefish trips during the week saw very good catches of mixed fish 2 to 14 lbs. on bait and chum. Sunday's group fished inside due to the weather and put together a good mixed bag catch. Other trips this week were sailed for: Dana Reyenger, Friendly, Inc., Union Course FC, N. Merrick FD and Yello Freight Systems, Inc.

Bob at the **Freeport Boatmen's Association** called Saturday's bluefishing great at Cholera with all boats loading up on BIG blues. Boats that sailed Sunday fished inside due to conditions and had good mixed bag catches of flounder, sea bass, blacks and porgies. The **Super Spray II** had been having excellent ocean bottom fishing on inshore wrecks, catching big sea bass, porgies and blacks. Early week, the **Norseman II** had a tuna trip and fishing the Canyon and Virginia area for 10 men on an open reservation trip totalled 34 YFT to 150 lbs. and 6 longfin tuna to 70 lbs. See their ad concerning future tuna trips.

A call from Captain Sy Carlin of the **Blue Fin Fleet** spoke of excellent bluefishing this week, weather permitting on bait and chum on local grounds with fish to 18½ lbs. Dave Meberg had the 18½ lber., Dave being from Consolidated Carpet. Taking pools in the 12 to 14 lb. class were Keith Schmidt, Pete Anello, Lou Esposito and Jim Clary, all of Welsbach Electric. High hooks this week catching anywhere from 20 to 30 blues were Ron Bedrossian, Roy Kualheim, John and Eric Pateneri, Kurt Hiland and Vic Passudetti. Lynn of ITT bagged a 2½ lb. flounder on a flattie trip. The boat still has a very few openings for their tuna trips. See ad for dates.

We learn from the **Miss Freeport II** that during the week flounder catches were fair inside with a lot of porgies and sea bass filling in.

In nearby **Point Lookout** Captain Dennis of the charter boat **Marie III** told of Saturday's trip for St. Christopher's Church bailing 5 to 12 lb. blues at Cholera on bait and chum averaging 15 to 30 fish a man.

Captain Al Lindroth of the **Captain Al** told of a super sea bass Saturday with all fares having at least 50 sea bass a person along with a good mixture of porgies and blues to top it off. Ocean bottom was anywhere from good to excellent all week long said Al, with great bottom fishing now.

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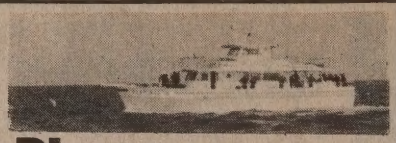

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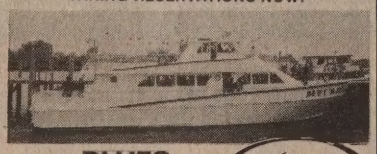

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very good mixed bags earlier in the week of blacks, sea bass, flounder and porgies were had on the half day trips, though things slowed up towards the end of the week. Saturday was a banner day at Cholera, with the charter nailing 14 blues a man, fish 5 to 8 lbs. on bait.

At **Ed's Fishing Station** we heard about the very good blackfishing at the bridges on fiddler crabs with flounder catches fair but building. Lots of big bluefish on the inside, along with some weakfish and stripers on live bunker. This has been especially good from dusk to dawn. Fluke about over, said Bill.

We learn from the **Miss Point Lookout** that the flounder catches were a lot better this week, with worms working best on the days with acceptable weather conditions, high hooks ranged as many as 20 per trip. Joe and Bill Fitterd totaled 50 flounder, Anna Specht 14, Mary and Fay totaled 20, Henry had 10, Ralph, 10, Mike Vicanore 19, Mitch A. 12, Mitch A. on another trip high hook with 20, Marty of Queens Village 18 and George N. 12. The weekend was a bust due to the weather. Night bluefishing trips have been excellent but now will be sailing Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights only.

Charlie at **Beckmann's Tackle in Lynbrook** was exhuberant about the super quality of the blackfishing on fiddlers and green crab at all of the bridges, rocks, reefs, wrecks, etc. He advised using green crabs for the bigger fish. Plenty of blues this past week all throughout Reynolds and Sloop channels, fish to 18 lbs. Anglers loaded up Sunday from the ABB to the loop bridge as the fish were chasing bunker.

NEW YORK BIGHT

At **Skippy's Tackle in East Rockaway**, we heard about the multitude of bluefish in the bay patrolling under the bunker schools and smashing baits, particularly live or fresh whole bunker. Best has been from the trestle to the ABB and also in the inlet. Stripers have been mixed in

John "Taug" of Mike's Tackle Shop in Sheepshead Bay with a brace of fine fluke he decked aboard the open boat, "America." Harry Ostrow photo.

here also. Lots of porgies and sea bass in the bay, along with some flounder. Very good blackfish to 4 lbs. at the bridges on fiddlers and greens. Some snappers still around and some BCCs at Bay Park. Bass still being clam chummed at the ABB and some bass also in the surf.

Artie at **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle in Howard Beach** told of the very good bluefish catches throughout Jamaica Bay, best on whole bunker. Blackfishing was great this past week, he said, from North and South channel bridges and the Marine Parkway bridge on fiddlers and greens. A 5½ lb. black fell to a green crab at the Warrior Buoy fo 8-year-old Mike Lee. Flounder just fair on blood and sand worms, on both moving tides. Porgies also a good item, same bait same tides. A few fluke on killies in the Breezy Point area. Artie himself this week fishing the south channel bridge bagged a 14 lb. 8 oz. weakfish on a live bunker.

Over in **Sheepshead Bay**, we learn that the **Betty W IV**, skippered by Al Coley had super bluefishing on jigs and on bait when the boat could sail around the weather, at 17 and Seabright. All fish ran 10 to 20 lbs. and on one trip a 125 lb. mako was caught while working Seabright.

Captain Butch of the **Zephyr V** has switched over to ocean bottom and will be blasting away on the sea bass, blackfish and porgies 7AM daily with green crabs and clam bait on board. Butch wrapped up the fluke season in fine style, right through last Saturday morning, with Sunday of course being weathered out.

Captain John of the **America Fleet** said that both boats had very good blackfish catches when they were able to get out, fishing Seabright area, blacks to 8 lbs. on green crabs. John said there were many 4 to 6 lbers. also taken.

The Wee Willie report from **Mike's Tackle** gave a wrap-up for the week consisting of big blues off Seabright and also inside Sheepshead Bay to 10 lbs. Catches of blackfish on local wrecks was a good item and there was also some sea bass at the Shrewsbury Rocks. Floundering in Jamaica Bay is starting and 60 bluefin tuna were caught on one of the big party boats plying the tuna trade.

North Shore REPORT
with Marty Garrell

Most stations reported very little activity over the weekend due to the passage of a couple of sharp fronts and inaccuracies in weather forecasting. The beach action in certain areas, especially last week, was quite good

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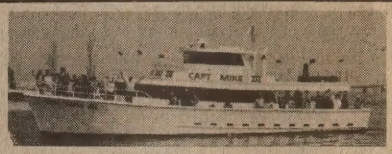

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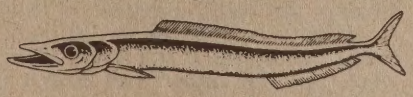

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and bottom fishing was excellent for anglers who picked their days, particularly weekdays.

WESTERN SOUND

Jack Rumpf at **Jack's Bait** on City Island was pulling the rental skiffs for the season after the gales on Sunday. Anglers fishing crabs off Execution, Sands Point and Harts Island had tautog to 8 lbs. in about 18 feet of water or more. Bluefish schools in the area featured a few marauders to 18 lbs.

There were no reports of significance from **John's Gun** in New Rochelle but John Cacciola at the **Glen Cove Sport Shop** had plenty of work on guns for the upcoming seasons. Art Miller recorded a 15½ lb. bluefish, the largest so far in th Glen Cove contest. It was one of many taken from the harbors last week on poppers.

Among the party boats, the **Klondike VIII** "got by" with some slow bluefishing most of the week around Eatons Neck. The biggest slammer of the week was a 19½ lber. and there was a pick of small bass mixed in. According to Pete Pearson, Jr., the big boat may be shifting to tautog in a couple of weeks. From City Island Dom Cerbone's **Apache** bailed a good haul of scup on Saturday. The boat was fishing from Rye to Mamaroneck in 35 to 40 feet of water with plenty of tautog showing every day. Cerbone even managed about a dozen fish apiece for 15 fares in the storm on Sunday by fishing some pieces around Mamaroneck.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

The past week saw nice catches of white perch at Sunken Meadow State Park. On Saturday, Matthew Viol and his son John kept 25 perch to 1¼ lbs., returning the same number of small fish. Mr. and Mrs. Mariano Aquino and their son, Salvador bagged 30 perch to about a pound. Al Flexer kept 25, in a two-hour fishing spree. All perch took **Al Feather's Jigs.**

George Valentine at **Four Winds** in Huntington called around breakfast on Sunday to give us some names and fish sizes for the current bulkhead bluefish derby that seems to be taking place every day or two around Huntington, Cold Spring Harbor and other assorted inshore spots. Vic Pesti had a 22 lb. 1 oz. alligator from Huntington, while Andrew Whitcomb plugged a 20 lb. 15 oz. slammer from Cold Spring. Also-rans were Rocco Florio with a 19 lb. 9 oz. fish and Charlie Banter with an 18.10. There were lots of bass to 31-33 inches in the area, and this was confirmed by John Alberda of **Sound Charters TJ.** Alberda was taking these linesiders on worms as well as taking big harbor bluefish. He has a few weekend charters left in November and some weekday afternoon trips open in October.

Tom Bowman at **Bowman's** in Northport figures that you have to do your homework and take a few skunkings to locate the blues roaming from harbor to harbor, but when you do find them—Wow! One slammer of 21½ lbs. was registered on a Lazy Ike off Sand City. There were scup to 1½ lbs. in 45 feet of water off buoy 11B and tautog off Target Rock.

John Caraftis at the **Caraftis Fishing Station** in Port Jefferson had four craft out Saturday before the big southwest blew up around 4PM. There were a lot of 5 and 6 lb. tautog seen at the station, but nothing to top the 10¾ lb. bulldog recorded one week ago. Large scup were coming off deepwater ledges in 60 or more feet of water and there were bluefish outside as well. The station will keep at least 10 skiffs in the water until the close of the season. Joe and Kate Laluna reported a good catch of 14 tautog to 4 lbs. around Oldfield and Cranes Neck, not a bad start for Ms. Laluna's first outing on blackfish!

Ralph Davenport at **Ralph's Fishing Station** in Mount Sinai saw private catches of tautog to 8 lbs. off Oldfield on Saturday along with a few scup. From the Middle Grounds came bluefish ranging all the way from cocktails to fish of 11 lbs.

Saturday was a good day for bottom

fishing on the Middle Grounds, according to Roy Cash of the **Port Jeff Ace**. There was a good pick of scup and a scattering of tautog with many of the porgies in large sizes to 1¾ lbs. One eye-opener was a ling of 4 lbs. plus a number of nice sea bass. The Ace Will be looking for more tautog with hard baits from now on. Bruce Cash is still jigging for blues every day with the **Prowler**, provided 8 or 10 people show up. Weekends are often chartered. Evening bluefishing on the **Ace** has been cancelled unless a group of 6 to 10 call in reservations.

NORTH FORK

Action on porgies goes on and on for the **Peconic Star** and the **Brand X**. Dave Brennan and Larry Porter were working a lot of drops in 70 feet or more from Plum Island over to the Connecticut Shore. Fish were predominantly mediums in 3/4 to 1¼ lb. sizes, but there were a few in the jumbo class from 1½ lbs. on up. Numbers were excellent with an easy couple of dozen fish per fare for the average angler. Bonus fish were sea bass to 2 lbs. or more and some tautog to 4 lbs. or so. Soft baits, usually clam on tandem low hooks, were preferred.

John Rainis of the **Sea Star** had a great mixed bag on Saturday, mixing bluefish with tautog and scup. His party had all the blues in the 6 lb. class that they wanted within 2½ hrs. Rainis has been finding lots of blackfish in shallow 20 to 30 foot rockpiles while Rod DeLisle has been taking 'tog in 55 feet with his **Prowler.**

Richie Jensen's **Nancy Ann** currently has the two leading fish in the **Pleasures of the Sea** Full Moon Bass Tourney. Taken on Friday and Saturday nights the trophy linesiders weighed 44¼ and 44¾ lbs. Ace Cottral had a half dozen entries as of Sunday afternoon. His boats reported all the bluefish one could desire in rips off Gardiner's Island and in Plum Gut. There were individual fish to 15 lbs., but the average was usually around 9. Ed Czelatka's **Sea Boots** hit a big school of cocktails north of Plum on Saturday, too. Tony Loperfido and his fiancee on the **Fishalot** had a tremendous catch of tautog to 5 lbs. off Orient. Getting back to the bass, the best score of the week was recorded by the Nancy Ann which kept 15 and released 15 (to 30 lbs.) on Friday night.

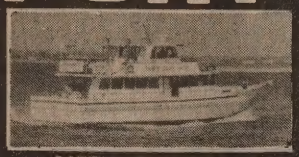
Bill Stamatis at **Warren's Tackle** in Aquebogue, felt that the firing range was producing more consistent tautog fishing than the pipeline, especially for the boat from the **Mattituck Fishing Station**. Maureen Caraftis said that the station still has some boats in the water and is hoping for more tautog to augment the catches of scup, which have been good on certain days.

Bob Ceglowski of the **Captain Bob** found a huge school of blues off Horton's Point last week and scored with diamond jigs. There were also a lot of fish east of Mattituck Inlet, choppers from 3 to 15 lbs. Ceglowski called tautog fishing "sporadic," but he's he plenty of jumbo scup, fish to around 2 lbs. from his wrecks in 50 feet of water. Some fares have 20 fish or more per day.

Heather Loria said that Phil was closing up the **Captain Marty's Station** in New Suffolk for the season; bait will be sold on nice days and the marina is open for hauling and winterizing. Dragging begins in the Peonic Bays this week. The last skiffs of the year had 15 nice scup per boat on Saturday.

PORT JEFFERSON

PORT JEFF ACE



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Surf REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

The "fall run" appears to be gaining momentum and the current cold snap will certainly help to move both bait and fish. In fact, while gathering reports Monday morning, I received word of a bluefish blitz underway at Democrat Point. Montauk continues

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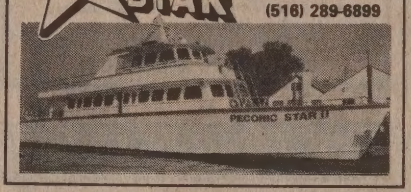

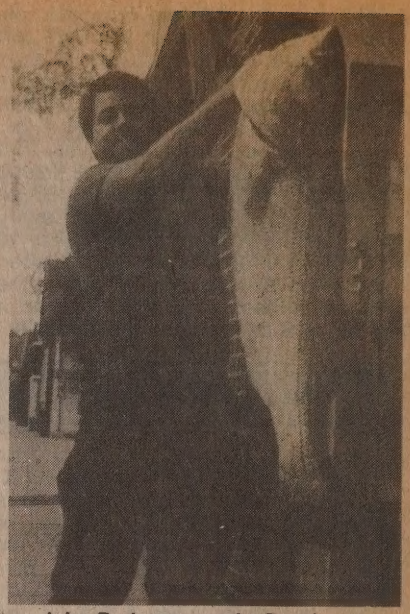

John Paduano used a Bomber to take this 46¾ lb. striper from a south shore beach. It was weighed at Rocky Point Fishing Stop.

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CAPT. LARRY CICCOTTO

to be knee deep in bluefish with the choppers most concentrated up front from North Bar around the light to Turtle Cove but there was also excellent action at Shagwong and Ditch Plains at times. The week's biggest surprise concerned the showing of big stripers, including a pair of 50 pounders, taken along North Shore beaches. It appears a body of migrating cows made a right turn at Orient and slipped down along north shore beaches this past week. Lets get into some of the details of this week's action.

Out at **Johnny's Tackle Shop** in **Montauk**, Johnny Kronuch reported a pair of weaks weighing 11 and 13 pounds for Willie Young on Friday night. Saturday night saw Gary Stevens click with a 25 pound striper. Bluefish were in heavy from Turtle Cove around to North Bar and at Shagwong Friday and Saturday. There were fish caught in Sunday's wind as well with the best showing at the Lighthouse area in the morning and Turtle Cove in the afternoon. Amid all of the bluefish action, there was a good shot of bass under the light and at Scott's just before and after dawn on Saturday. Most of the fish were in the 7-8 pound class. There were a couple of 10 and 12 pounders taken as well. Virtually all of the bluefish action has been on popping plugs with the bass falling to darters before daybreak and poppers after daybreak.

Reports of good bluefishing along Amagansett and from Mecox west to Shinnecock Inlet also reached our ears. It appears that the best of the fishing was during the week with the weekend's heavy surf shorting out the action on Saturday and Sunday.

At **J & J Tackle** in **Patchogue**, Paul Graniello knew that FINS has been producing a steady pick of bass in the 5-8 pound class on teasers being fished ahead of tins and Bombers. Dennis Scognamillo and Bob Antici had 5 bass and a bunch of small blues there early one morning this week. Several casters reported tangling with big blues along FINS back on Tuesday night.

Ira Marder wandered into **J&R Sports Center** in **Oakdale** Monday morning (October 5) fresh from a stint at Robert Moses Parking Field 4. He told Dave Canale that he used a homemade dropper fished ahead of tin to cull out a 15 pound striper and blues of 10 and 7 pounds.

Noel Kappauf at **Captree Bait and Tackle** had a weigh slip for a 16.4 pound blue taken at West End, Jones Beach for Jason Colby. Noel got wind of several big blues taken at Parking Field 6, Jones Beach on Sunday and he also knew that big blues continue to show late evening and nights at the Jones Beach Piers. A reminder that Noel does have live eels in stock.

Gary Koller was fresh from a bluefish blitz at Democrat Point when Mike Andreani at **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle** put him on the phone Monday morning. Gary said that the action began at 4AM on bunker chunks, switched to popping plugs at daybreak and was still going on when he left the beach at 9AM. The fish ranged from 8 to 14 pounds. There was a minor blitz of sorts inside Fire Island Inlet early last week when big bass and big weaks discovered a big school of bunker along Cedar Beach. Several of the casters on hand took advantage of the situation by livelining freshly snagged bunker. John 'The Baptist' was one of the lucky ones on the scene. He weighed a 24.4 pound striper at Lindenhurst. Mike Andreani reported seeing a cow in the mid 40s taken from the same scene by a caster who prefered anonymity. Mike was also aware of big blues taken on the Cedar Bar both Tuesday and Wednesday nights. Live eels seemed to be the favored bait. LISA Club Members Mike Campanelli, Joe Kelly and Mark Melinovsky loaded up with blues on Thursday and Friday during a visit to Montauk.

Across the Street at **Charlie's Bait and Tackle**, Jimmy Schaefer relayed word of a fair amount of bass being

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taken at Robert Moses fields 2 and 4 this week. Chris Anderson totaled 8 bass up to 18 pounds fishing over the course of a few evenings on the ocean side of Robert Moses Field 2. He used sandworms. On Friday night, Dave Zullo used a bunker chunk to dupe an 11½ pound weakfish at Democrat Point. George Schneider worked the shore near the 3rd Wantagh Bridge back on Tuesday night. He used a combination of live eels, bunker chunks and a yellow darter to take 7 blues to 13½ pounds, a 12.3 pound weakfish and a 30 pound striper. The striper fell for the darter. A reminder that Charlie's also has live eels in stock.

A call from Joe Augeri of **Gateway Striper Club** revealed lots of big blues chasing bunker within range of casters from the VZ Bridge all the way around and into Jamaica Bay. Good action occured during the week as well as on the weekend. Club member Dave Williams worked the open beach at Breezy Point Sunday afternoon to the tune of 25 blues to 15 pounds. Several club members reported a few big blues up to 19 pounds at Jones Beach Parking Field 6 on bunker chunks Sunday morning. Joe himself, worked Fort Tilden Friday evening and used a yellow Red Gill teaser ahead of a tin to take a bunch of bass from 5 to 12 pounds along with one 18 pounder.

The North Shore produced some real quality fish this past week.

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Monster bluefish continue their raid on bunker schools in the harbors with Huntington Harbor again at the forefront. According to George Valentine at **Four Winds Bait and Tackle**, the biggest blue to go on the scale this week was a slammer of 22 pounds 1 ounce. Vic Pesti had the giant blue on a yellow Gibbs popper. George told of weighing other blues into the high teens this week, most taken on big swimming and popping plugs.

Now getting back to those North Shore cows. Stan Hentschel at **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** revealed the data on one of those 50 pound bass. The lucky angler was Carl Kruse. He took the big striper 7AM on Thursday on a bunker chunk. Stan said that he weighed 6 bass from 30 to 50 pounds over the course of the week. All were taken in the daylight on bunker chunks along local beaches between Hagerman's Landing and Shoreham. This same stretch of beach has been producing a steady stream of big blues on bait. After dark, good numbers of school bass falling to Red Fins, Bombers and Rebels.

Bill Stamatis of **Warren's Tackle** in **Aquebogue** was privy to another one of those North Shore cows. He weighed a 50 pound striper for Bob Kosciusko. It was taken on a large sandworm Saturday evening. Bill added that there has been good bluefishing along North Fork beaches with most of the fish falling to butterfish and bunker baits but some are being taken on Pencil Poppers.

Freshwater REPORT
with Tom Schlichter

High winds and heavy rains over the weekend kept freshwater activity to a minimum and put a damper on the solid run of bass, pickerel and trout that seemed to be getting under way a week ago. Prior to the start of nasty weather, a few anglers reported good fishing. With daylight growing shorter each day, squeezing in a few productive hours on the water is getting harder and harder for local anglers.

At **Causeway Bait and Tackle, Wantagh**, Bobby Turturello reported his regular crew still using live killies to pick away at small to medium sized bass at North Twin Lake. On the mill pond, worms are being used to score with bluegills.

From Fred Laager of **Edelman's Sportsman's Center East**, knew of only one successful sweet water score and that was made by Todd Hastel who used a nightcrawler to nail a 2.8 lb. largemouth and a batch of sunfish around mid-week.

A few bass and pickerel up to 15'' being taken from the lakes on Rt. 231, was the only freshwater activity that Tom Healy of **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle**, heard of this week past.

At **J&R Sports Center, Oakdale**, local freshwater information was non-existent, although Phil Briggs did think anglers trying the park or Bubbles Falls would find a few trout. Richie Simmons of East Islip stopped by the shop to show off a 28 lb. chinook salmon which he hauled from the Salmon River.

At **J&J Bait and Tackle, Patchogue**, John relayed word that a few anglers are beginning to see a few sea run trout holding in local tidal creeks. So far, none have been taken, but several in the 4 to 6 lb. class have reportedly been spotted. Small bass are still active on Patchogue Lake for those willing to give them a try.

Although Sunday was a complete washout, anglers who ignored the weather reports and went fishing on Saturday morning scored pretty well according to Mrs. Devlin at the **Fisherman's Deli, Riverhead**. Mr. Epps of the Bronx traveled out with four friends and used worms to catch a fine messs of Peconic River crappies, catfish and sunnies. Several other anglers reportedly scored well with small bass in Forge Pond.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT & CIRCULATION

(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

1. Title of Publication: The Long Island Fisherman. *A. Publication No.:* 588160. *2. Date of Filing:* October 1, 1987. *3. Frequency of Issue:* Weekly (except two weeks in December). *A. No. of issues published annually:* 50 Issues. *B. Annual Subscription Price:* $17.50. *4. Location of known office of publication:* Bridge St., Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963. *5. Location of the headquarters or general business offices of the publishers:* Bridge St., Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963. *Publisher:* Richard Reina, RR3 Box 200, South Dr., Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963. *Editor:* Fred Golofaro, 27 Rose St., Islip, N.Y. 11751. *7. Owner:* L.I.F. Publishing Corp., Bridge St., Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963; Richard Reina, RR3 Box 200, South Dr., Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963; Richard S. Reina, P.O. Box 1826, Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963; Christine M. Reina, P.O. Box 1141, Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963. *10. Extent and Nature of Circulation. A. Total No. Copies Printed:* 29,700 Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months; 32,700 Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date. *B. Paid Circulation; 1. Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors and Counter Sales:* 9,478 Avg., 11,558 Actual. *2. Mail Subscription:* 14,911 Avg., 14,847 Actual. *C. Total Paid Circulation:* 24,389 Avg., 26,405 Actual. *D. Free Distribution by Mail, Carrier or Other Means, Samples, Complimentary, and Other Free Copies:* 535 Avg., 552 Actual. *E. Total Distribution: 24,924 Avg., 26,957 Actual. F. Copies Not Distributed; 1. Office Use, Left Over, Unaccounted, Spoiled After Printing: 650 Avg., 668 Actual. 2.Returns From News Agents: 4,126 Avg., 5,075 Actual. G. Total:* 29,700 Avg., 32,700 Actual.

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DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	9:10	9:30	10:00	10:25	9:50	10:10	10:40	11:10	12:45	12:55	12:20	12:35	9:00	9:20	10/8
FRI.	9:50	10:15	10:45	11:05	10:35	10:55	11:25	11:55	12:30	1:35	1:05	1:20	9:45	10:05	10/9
SAT.	10:35	11:00	11:25	11:55	11:20	11:45	—	12:10	2:10	2:15	1:50	2:05	10:30	10:50	10/10
SUN.	11:15	11:45	—	12:10	—	12:05	12:40	1:00	2:55	2:55	2:35	2:50	11:20	11:40	10/11
MON.	—	12:00	12:40	1:00	12:35	12:55	1:35	1:50	3:45	3:45	3:25	3:40	—	12:05	10/12
TUES.	12:35	12:50	1:30	1:55	1:30	1:50	2:30	2:45	4:45	4:45	4:15	4:35	12:30	1:00	10/13
WED.	1:30	1:45	2:25	2:50	2:25	2:40	3:40	3:50	5:55	6:05	5:15	5:30	1:30	2:00	10/14
THURS.	2:25	2:40	3:25	3:55	3:20	3:35	4:45	4:55	7:00	7:20	6:10	6:30	2:35	3:00	10/15

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	–0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	–0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	–0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	–0 12
Seaside Park	–0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	–0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	–0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	–0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	–0 02
Rehobeth Beach	–0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	–0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	–0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	–0 38
Democrat Point	–0 38
Coast Guard Station	–0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	–0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	0 06
Long Beach Bridge	0 09
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	–0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	–0 20
Truman Beach	–0 42
Falkner Island	–0 13
Sachem Head	–0 10
Branford Harbor	–0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	–0 08
Milford Harbor	–0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	–0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	–0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	–0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	–0 14
Montauk Inlet	–0 25
Montauk Point, north side	–1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	–0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	–0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	–0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	–0 10
Execution Light	0 06
Manhasset Bay	–0 01
Hempstead Harbor	–0 11
City Island	–0 03
Rye Beach	–0 28
Port Chester	–0 09
Mamaroneck	–0 08
New Rochelle	–0 24
Davids Island	–0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	–0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	–0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	–1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	–0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	–0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	–0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	–0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 10/8	7:04	6:31
FRI. 10/9	7:05	6:30
SAT. 10/10	7:06	6:29
SUN. 10/11	7:07	6:27
MON. 10/12	7:08	6:25
TUE. 10/13	7:09	6:23
WED. 10/14	7:10	6:21

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 10/8	7:05PM	8:35AM
FRI. 10/9	7:35PM	9:45AM
SAT. 10/10	8:10PM	10:55AM
SUN. 10/11	8:50PM	12:05PM
MON. 10/12	9:40PM	1:05PM
TUE. 10/13	10:35PM	1:55PM
WED. 10/14	11:35PM	2:40PM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
10/22	10/29	11/5	10/14

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	6:10	—	6:35	**12:25**
Fri.	7:05	**12:05**	7:35	**1:20**
Sat.	8:00	**1:50**	8:30	**2:15**
Sun.	8:55	**2:45**	9:25	**3:10**
Mon.	9:50	**3:40**	10:25	**4:10**
Tues.	10:50	**4:40**	11:20	**5:05**
Wed.	11:45	**5:35**	—	**6:00**
Thurs.	12:15	**6:25**	12:35	**6:45**

The Fisherman's CLASSIFIED

Rates are 50 cents per word with a 15 word ($7.50) minimum, subscriber rates (non-commercial) are 25 cents per word with a 15 word ($3.75) minimum. Include the number off the subscription label. Discounts for extended runs: 12 times, 5%; 35 times, 10%; 50 times, 15%. Photo classifieds: Add $15 per insert, subscribers add $7.50 per insert.

Send classified ad exactly as you wish it to read along with check or money order to: The Fisherman, Post Office Box 1994, Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963. Call (516) 725-4200 for further info, no phone orders accepted.

BOATS & MOTORS

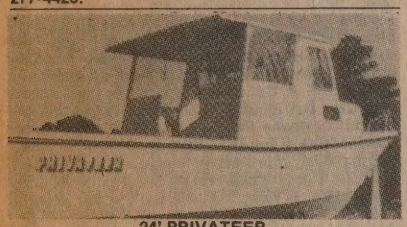
MUST SELL: 16' Tri-Hull 40 hp Johnson w/trailer, fishfinder, new batt., aux. bracket. Good cond. 718-276-3923.

SEA RAY 1983 25' Cuddy. Full electronics. Immaculate in & out. Too many options to list. Must see. Baby already arrived. Must sell. Ask: $21,750. 516-431-3143.

ONLY $8560

18' STEIGER CRAFT center console. 70 hp Mercury elec. start. Windshield, grab rail. Freight & prep. incl. MARINELAND: Mattituck, 516-298-4020. Long Beach, 516-889-5000. East Moriches, 516-878-4777. Bklyn: 3260 Flatbush Av, 718-692-1900.

1983 MAKO 25 CC; Rainbow Runner II, 1984 Twin 150 hp Merc V6 O/Bs, 1983 Shoreline EZ Loader trailer, T-top, rocket launcher, gin pole, outriggers. Full electronics. Rigged to the hilt. The ultimate fishing machine. $29,500. Eves, Wknds: 516-277-4426.



24' PRIVATEER
LENGTH 24' 5" BEAM 9' 1"
PORT OF EGYPT, Southold, 516-765-2445

26' STAMAS 10' beam, 2 - 165 Chevys, OMC outdrives. New canvas cover and seats, sink, ice box. Full instrumentation. Potti. Sleeps 2. Many more features. $7900. 718-761-5594.

FISHERMAN'S DREAM

28' CHRIS CRAFT Commander FB/SF. 2 new 350 Crusaders + Transmissions. 4 new gas tanks, 280 usable gal. Canyon range. Highly customized for sport fishing. Extensive inventory. Has to be seen to be believed. Turn key operation. Ready to go. $35,000. 516-621-7173/867-4379.

LIKE NEW

1976 Trojan 36'. All fiberglass Sportfisherman. Conv. Sedan. Immaculate. Every option: customized interior, A/C, generator, windlass, encl. Loran, Glendining, trim tabs. Low hrs. engines. $65,000. 9-5: 516-437-2200. After 7PM: 516-781-7680.

SPORTCRAFT 27' cuddy cabin, '85 FWC 330 hp Mercruiser, TR outdrive, 150 gal. fuel. Power steering, Loran, VHF, digital depth, chart recorder, CB. Electric anchor, outriggers, trim tabs, dive platforms, SW wash, sea water temp, Mercathode sys. Large cockpit area. Excl. $15,000. 1-516-678-1361.

GRADY WHITE '85 24' offshore cuddy. 260 Merc I/O, hard top w/drop curtains, DF, VHF, Ray Jeff video, dual battery, outriggers, many extras, very low hours, very clean ready to go. $26,500. Offshore fishing equipment available. Eves, before 9PM: 516-798-7649.

60' CUSTOM BUILT Party Boat, 49 passengers, 100 miles. Can increase. 2 8V71s. Planking 1.5" Juniper. Excl. cond. Built 1978. New boat coming in June. Reduced for quick sale. $125,000. CAPT. JOHN, 15 First St., Waterford, Ct 06385; 203-443-7259. Make offer.

WANTED: Used Boats. Complete marine service. Brokerage, surveys, inspections, evaluations performed. Maintenance contracts. PALMER'S MARINE, 516-623-2972.

40' Twin Diesel Charter Boat. Wood, tuna tower, Bimini, outriggers, chairs. Spare engine plus parts. Spare props. All tackle, equip. Owner retiring. Between 6-8PM: 516-288-1153.

28' SPORTFISHERMAN, custom glass, center console cuddy. Tower, riggers, chair. 400 hp. Low hrs. Loaded w/electronics. Excl. cond. $19,500. Eves: 516-678-1550.

MARINER OUTBOARDS

YEAR END CLEARANCE on all in-stock motors. No reasonable offer refused. DICKSON'S MARINE, 516-475-1445.

BLACK FIN 79, 25' FISHERMAN

Twin diesels, Volvo TMD 40s, turbo mint cond. Tuna tower, twin stations, power anchor. Canyon capable. Many extras. Electronics. $35,000 or best legitimate offer. Must sell. Days: 516-567-6470. Eves: 516-567-7307.

150 hp 1984 Evinrude. Needs work or use for parts. $800. Stored in Merrick, LI. 201-666-5224.

EVINRUDE

NEW 1986 EVINRUDES 1986

2-$298; 4-$480; 6-$612; 8-$712; 9.9-$960; 15-$1100; 25-$1288; 30-$1388; 40-$1600; 50-$1958; 60-$2350; 70-$2600; 90-$2750; 110-$3100; 120-$3900; 140-$4000; 150-$4200; 175-$4700; 200-$4900; 225-$5000; 275-$6500; 300-$7000. ELECTRA MARINE INC., 610 Merrick Rd., Lynbrook, NY 11563. Scott & McCulloch parts. FOB/H. WI. 516-599-3003. We ship anywhere. MERCURY OUTBOARDS. New 1986. Phone quotes. Full service shop.

16' MIRROCRAFT, 40 hp Evinrude, Galv. trailer. Rigged to fish. Ask: $2500. After 5PM: 516-273-0485.

SHAMROCK KEEL DRIVE I/Bs 17', 20' & 26'. Rampage Sportfisherman 24'-28'-31' I/B. SOUTH SHORE BOATS, 516-288-2400; 516-378-3200.

BLACKFIN 86 32' SF, twin 350 Crusaders, FWC, heat & a/c, instant hot water, teak coverboards aft, full teak pulpit w/SS rails, free drop windlass. Full teak swim platform. Pompanette SF 130 fight chair. Rupp outriggers, raw/fresh washdown. Bimini f/full encl. Northstar 800X Loran, Furuno FCV 501, digital DF, Icom VHF. Loaded for fish or cruise. Mint. Low hrs. Lists over $150,000. Best offer. 516-599-6543/867-4660.

EVINRUDE

WE'LL BEAT ANY DEALER'S advertised price—and service it, too! AL GROVER'S, Freeport, 516-378-0510.

25' C-HAWK w/Cuddy, SS rail, 96 gal. fuel tank, 1987 150 hp Suzuki, SS prop. Windshield wipers, bilge pump, 4 rod holders. CG Pkg. FOB. $18,500. Financing avail. 17'-25' Center Console also avail. JENSEN MARINE, Copiague, NY; 516-226-9739.

Alura 30

SPORTFISH Cruiser 30' by Hunter Marine. Full keel design. 6' 4" cabin w/galley & head. Huge cockpit. Introductory special $40,645 w/270 hp. FOB. SOUTH SHORE BOATS, 516-288-2400; 516-378-3200.

1984 17' PROLINE center console, 70 hp Yamaha. Galv. trailer. All in mint cond. $6800. Eves after 6PM: 516-589-6599.

1984 GRADY WHITE Tournament 24', twin 115 hp Seadrives. 60 hrs. Tandem trailer. Many extras. Immaculate. $30,000. 516-265-0265.

SEA OX 17' center console, '83 70 hp Johnson. Galv. trailer. Excl. cond. Must sell. $5500. 718-891-5282/353-6347.

Continued On Next Page

MAKO ★WHOLESALE★ RETAIL ★ EXPORT ★ WHOLESALE ★RETAIL EGG HARBOR FORMULA
AL GROVER'S MAKO BOATS • (516) 379-7100 MAJESTIC MARINE • (516) 546-BOAT

35' OWENS. Excl. cond. Fully equip. Twin diesel. Slip inc. Must sell; moving. 718-979-0776.

21' MAKO & 200 Evinrude. Both 1979. Outriggers, electronics, trailer. Clean boat. Low hrs. $11,000. 516-324-5128.

DEALER CLOSEOUT SALE
Mariner Outboards; Dell Quay boats, Metzeler inflatables. NASSAU CYCLE CENTER, 516-931-7180.

1985 FORTIER 26, Turbo diesel, electronics. Fast, comfortable, economical. Illness forces sale. After 6PM: 516-661-3956.

WELLCRAFT V-20' Cuddy. Fully loaded. 140 Evinrude PT&T. Galv. trailer, power winch. Compl fishing machine. Full electronics. More. $8600. 516-294-3059/421-9362.

1983 31' JC Sportfisherman, flybridge, 3 station steering. Insulated fish hole, fight chair. Full electronics, V6 71 TI diesel. $83,000. Neg. 1-203-838-0503.

LUHRS 340—offers more standard features than any other Sportfisherman in her class, incl. the welded aluminum tower, compl. w/console. In stock along w/290 & 342. Also dealers for Sportcraft, Chris Craft, OMC Sea Drive; OMC Stern Drive; Johnson; Mercruiser. SPELLMAN'S MARINE, 1708 North Hwy, Southampton, NY 11968; 516-283-7907.

The Ultimate 21' Center Console. New 140 hp Suzuki w/SS prop, Armstrong brkt. Custom marine carpentry tackle center, custom SS railings. Teak covering boards, teak pulpit, fold down teak antenna arch. Outriggers, full instrumention, auto pilot, dual batt., Loran, VHF, CB, 2 fish finders, SW washdown. There is not a finer, more fully equip center console on the East Coast. Showroom cond. $18,500. Will also sell W/O electronics. 516-623-1639.

SEARAY 30' 1977 Sportfisherman. Flybridge, Loran, VHF, DF, Flo Scan. 50 hrs on rebuilt 260 hp Mercs. 240 gal fuel. Asking: $32,000. 516-661-7607.

1986 GRADY WHITE 24' Offshore. Partnership breaking up. Must sell this immaculate boat. Boat & engine bought nw July '86. Johnson 200 loop/charge, hydraulic steering, Si-Tex fishfinder, VHF, depthfinder, spotlights, swim platform. More. Boat & engine are perfect. Extended warranty transferable. Must sell. A steal at $23,500. Days: 781-9600. Eves: 579-9403.

WELLCRAFT 24' 1977 Airslot Fisherman, 233 hp Merc I/O, VHF, depthfinder. $7800. PORT OF EGYPT, Southold, 516-765-2445.

38' Charter Boat. Lic. 20 pass. Passed CG inspection. 471 Diesel. Excl. cond. $16,000. Eves: 718-934-2063.

1978 HYDRA SPORT 21' 200 hp Johnson, CB, radio & depthfinder. Must be seen for list of equip & information. $8000. 1-516-887-1759 Eves after 6PM; all day Wednesday.

THOMPSON 252FB/SF 25' 1984 Merc. 228 I/O under 150 hrs. Cruise equip. 100 gal. tank. Sleeps 4. Galley & head. Swim platform, windlass, Loran, VHF, ADF, knot log, AM/FM, 3 depth finders, tabs & more. Best offer; new boat coming. Days: 718-629-1454. Eves: 718-376-6340.

PRIVATEER 21' 1987 Center Console, 1986 225 hp Johnson. Custom Rocket Launcher seat, VHF, depth finder. $14,500. PORT OF EGYPT, Southold, 516-765-2445.

1987 BOSTON WHALER 20' Outrage, 200 hp Johnson VRO. VHF, LCD fish finder. All equip. Ready to go. $25,000. 516-668-2111. Ask for Charlie.

26' DIESEL Skiff. Excl. 1-man fishing boat. 10' beam. Well equip. Same design as Fortier. Built 1969. Engine installed new 1983. Excl. cond. $12,500. 516-549-2628.

1979 GRADY WHITE Sprint 17', 70 hp Evinrude. Trailer & full canvas. $3750. 718-225-4043.

19' MFG Cuddy, 135 hp Evinrude. Full canvas. '86 Galv. trailer. Many extras. $5200. 516-746-0259.

24' WINNER Sportfish cuddy, 198 hp Mercruiser, VHF, depth finder. $7950. THE MOORING, 516-766-0080.

MUST SELL: 10 hp Merc. Approx. 1965. Excl. running cond. $400. 718-276-3923.

25' SEACRAFT Cuddy, 260 OMC. Replaced in 1985. Loaded; many extras. $11,500. THE MOORING, 516-766-0080.

38' BERTRAM 1979, Turbo Cummins, tower, teak decks, cockpit controls. Windlass, generator, reverse air. Stereo, freezer, refrig., micro-oven. Murray chair, Avon raft. Full curtains & covers. Auto pilot, radar, VHF, CB, Loran, color recorder. Many other quality electronics & extras. Exceptionally well maintained. Offers over $135K considered. 201-223-8510.

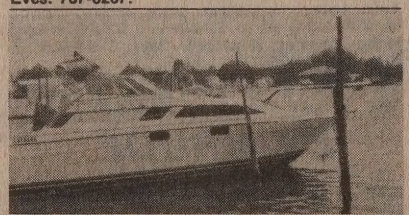
1974 24' PROLINE center console. Compl. rebuilt 1986. 130 hp Volvo I/B. Custom cuddy, Bimini & winter cover. VHF, new Ray Jeff 480 recorder. In water. Will Demo. $6500. Eves: 516-669-0695.

65' Steel Head/Charter GM's
46' 1971 Chris Aquahome, Gas
46' 1985 Oceans 6/92s
45' 1982 Glass Charter/Dive, GM
42' 1979 Chris T/F GM 8/71 TI
225 hp Johnson 87/88 Zero hrs.
40' 1982 Egg Tournament 6/71 TIs
37' 1981 Stapleton Canyon GMs
37' 1979 Glass Lob/Work 6/71
36' 1984 Runaway, Volvos
35' 1974 Bertram S/F Cummins
31' 1973 Uniflite Chryslers
30' 1974 Columbia Tower, Perkins
30' 1969 Morgan Sail
KARP MARINE, 516-581-3308.

1985 18' KENN KRAFT Center Console, '83 115 hp Mercury, compass, VHF, DF. $6495. THE MOORING, 516-766-0080.

1986 25' GRADY WHITE Sailfish, twin 200 hp Yamahas, radar, fight chair, color video, Loran, VHF, etc. Canyon ready. $51,5900 or B/O. Al: 215-946-3150/860-1646.

14' STARCRAFT Aluminum, center console, windshield, fishing platform, pole holders, 25 hp 1985 Evinrude w/elec. start, battery, 6-gal. gas tank. 1983 Dilly galv. trailer. Extras. $2500. Dave, Eves: 737-8267.



BAYLINER 84 27' Ciera 26 Volvo 90 hrs. VHF, stereo, refrig., elec. stove, shower, hot/cold water. Dockside elec., dual batt., trim tabs. Sleeps 6. Must sell. In water; make offer. 732-1959.

MAKO 23 Deep-V, 235 hp Evinrude, 2 recorders, VHF, compass, stereo; 124 gal. capacity. Many extras. Clean! $11,500. 516-334-3453.

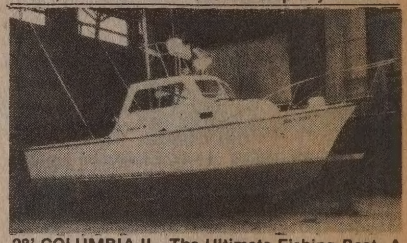
MAKO 23' Center Console, 80, 235 Evinrude '80 rebuilt '86, 100 gal. gas. Offshore console, twin batt. New electronics '86. VHF, chart recorder, digital DF, Loran. New chairs, leaning post. Immaculate. $14,000. 516-799-7123.

25' CHRIS Lancer, flybridge, twin station. New 350 GM & Volvo 280. True Deep V, fast & dry. Full electronics. Outriggers. Mint. Many extras. Excl. offshore/inshore. Huge cockpit for fishing. Only $10,200. 924-9446.

1986 BAYLINER Trophy 25', flybridge, Bimini w/full encl. 260 hp, 105 gal., 90 hrs. Transom plat., Lowrance, VHF, 10' beam, fish well. Full galley, head. Sleeps 6. AM/FM cassette. Mint. $43,000 invested for $32,000. Day: 475-2689. Eves: 475-8904.

EVINRUDE

NEW 1985, 1986, 1987 NEW
6-$598; 8-$698; 9.9-$948; 28-$1498; 40-$1598; 50-$1998; 88-$2698; 110-$3298; 225-$4998. SEALAND MARINE, 48 Merrick Rd., Amity Harbor, NY 11701; 516-842-1242. FOB/WI. Ship anywhere.



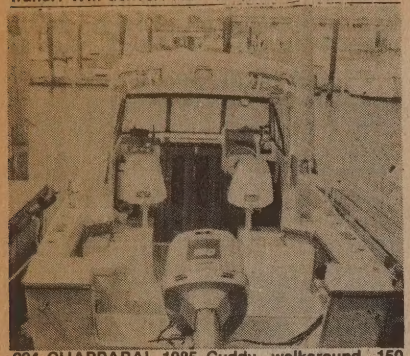
28' COLUMBIA II—The Ultimate Fishing Boat. A chance to own a fully equip. 28' Sportfisherman. Turn the key & you're ready for sharks or any kind of fishing. The boat features tower w/full instrumentation, teak bow pulpit, teak transom platform & transom door. Powered by a Merc 260 hp FWC I/B w/170 gal. tank. In the deck are 2 big, insulated, flush mounted fish boxes. Accessories incl. Furuno 24 mi. radar, Robertson auto pilot, interphased w/Micrologic Loran. Features 3 Lowrance depth recorders, 2 digital & 1 paper marine w/dual transducer selection, a printing sea water temp, VHF & CB radios. Sports an auto anchor windlass, outriggers, trim tabs, SW washdown, full polyurethane flotation in hull & cannot sink. Built-in tackle boxes, 2 fwd bunks, sink, stove, marine toilet, shore-power hook-up & built-in batt. charger. Stored inside, ready for viewing & water ready. Boat is mint. All this for the low price of $49,990. For appt. to view it, call 516-862-9254.

1985 20' PROLINE center console. Full transom, '85 115 Yamaha, VHF, depth finder, spray hood, dual batt., power trim & tilt. $9000. Days: 516-226-9030. Eves: 516-842-4169.

BLACK FIN 29 1984 COMBI
Custom tower, sunshade & controls. T/454 Crusaders, 330 gal. fuel cap. Top electronics inc. Furuno radar, Furuno LC-90 Loran, Icom VHF, Raytheon JFV-90 video DF - 600 watt. Double spreader outriggers. Compl. rigged for big game fishing. Custom stand-up cabin. Low hrs. At Montauk; mint. Serious calls only. Reduced: $76,000. 718-204-4777.

GRADY WHITE 1984 22' Seafarer walkaround. 185 hp and 15 hp Johnson O/Bs. 110 hours, custom canvas, SW washdown, dual batt, Standard VHF, Lowrance X15 recorder, Raytheon 550 Loran C, top condition, none better. $23,500. After 5PM: 516-421-9401.

1987 SEAWAY 20' center console. Boat & motor manufacturer's Demo. Less than 10 hrs. VHF, depth finder. Complete inst. Powered by Suzuki 200 hp Anniversary Edition. Compl. w/deluxe trailer. Will deliver. Ask: $20,000. 201-534-5057.



224 CHAPPARAL 1985 Cuddy, walkaround, 150 Evinrude. 3-yr. full transferable warranty. Full instruments. Custom canvas, outriggers, Bennett trim tabs, color video DF, VHF. Extras. In water; will Demo. Summer slip incl. Getting married; boat must go. B/O. Lv. message: 718-358-3452.

1981 STARCRAFT 14' Alum. boat, 25 hp Johnson motor w/many extras. $1200. 516-623-2499.

1982 28' BLACK FIN COMBI, 82-L diesels, tower, Rupp riggers, Si-Tex radar, Si-Tex Loran w/remote, Si-Tex recorder, Koden video sonar, fight chair, swim platform, new batt. Extra fuel. Canyon ready. Very clean. $61,000. Must sell; new boat coming. Days: 215-495-7166.

25 PENN YAN Flybridge, fiberglass, 200 hp. $5900. THE MOORING, 516-766-0080.

MERCURY OUTBOARDS

YEAR END Clearance on all 1987 motors at below wholesale prices. 2 hp-220 hp in stock. BAYVILLE MARINE, 516-628-8686.

COLUMBIA 27' 1973 F.G. Sportfisherman. Numerous options. Super shape. $12,700. 516-477-9512.

24' GRADY WHITE Offshore 1982, 225 hp, trim tabs, swim platform. Full canvas, twin batt., electronics. Yard maintained. Mint cond. Slip avail. Cos Cob. 914-762-1418.

21' GLASTRON 1983 Walkaround Cuddy, 150 Merc. Full electronics, sea water temp. Outriggers, full canvas. Excl. cond. Winter storage. $9000. 516-678-2567.

28' UNIFLITE, 1979 F/B Sportfisherman, Twin FWC Crusaders. This boat is loaded with options, too many to list. Must be seen. For list of equipment and more info, Days: 516-491-5764. Eves: 718-229-4391.

SEA NYMPH 1987 Fishing Boats. Evinrude Outboards. KELLY'S OUTBOARD WORLD, 1531 Lakeland Ave., Bohemia. 516-567-3417.

FOR SALE: 1985 28' MAKO 1986 twin 200 hp C/R Yamahas. Custom Atlantic top w/compl. encl. & electronics box. Electro-San head, tackle trays, 4 hvy duty batt., 18' Lee outriggers & Pompanette SS 130 chair. R-20 radar, Koden Cus. 88 scope, micro. 5500. Voyager radio, Lowrance 3400 & Dytek 500 & much more. Repl. cost $65,000 plus. Ask: $48,500. Will Demo. 795-8090.

1983 SEACRAFT, 1984 175 hp Yamaha, T-top. Rigged for fishing. Best offer over $20,000. Days: 203-646-8080. Eves: 203-646-7788.

EVINRUDE O/B '77 175 hp, 25" shaft. PT&T controls, SS prop & spare. Good cond. $2000. 914-947-2115.

21' '77 CRUISERS INC, Bonanza, Johnson 200, VHF, LCD depth finder. Full canvas. Good cond. $7000. 516-756-7069.

1985 CHRIS CRAFT 25' Scorpion 254, FWC, 260 I/O Mercury. 20 hrs. on engine. Sleeps 4. China head, 2 live baitwells, galley. Many electronics, stereo system, dual batt. Wkdys: 212-406-3390. Wknds: 718-934-0499.

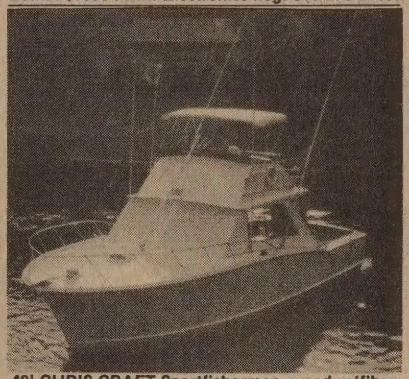
MAKO Type Hull, center console w/removable cap, 115 hp Merc PT&T, SST, depth recorder, CB & more. $6495. After 6PM: 516-666-3915.

1978 CENTURY, 7000 Series, 27' 3". Sleeps 4. New Mercruiser 230 engine, approx. 100 hrs. Galley, stand-up head. New Bimini top, side, aft curtains. Plus more. Excl. cond. In water at Montauk. $19,000. 914-693-4431.

Engine 350 CI, GM, FWC. 240 hrs. 2-1 transmission. Compl. Runs perfect. $2000. After 5: 718-478-3542.

27' SILVERTON 1971 FB, dual stations, 318 Chrys. Good mechanical cond. Many extras. In water Lindenhurst, LI. 2-boat owner. Very anxious. $6000 Neg. 201-843-4367, any time. Lv. message.

MOVING—MUST SELL. 1971 Stamas 26' Americana t/155 OMC I/O. Excl. cond. In water for Demo. $7990 Firm. Electronics neg. 516-273-2139.



40' CHRIS CRAFT Sportfisherman, wood w/fiberglass deck. Ready for fishing or cruising. Pompanette outriggers & chairs. Sleeps 6. Loaded. Showpiece cond. Recent survey & engine overhaul. $45,000 incl. winter storage & '88 season dockage. 516-728-3721.

Repowering—am selling twin '83 230 hp Mercruisers. Still in boat for testing. Compl. FWC, mounts & 1.52:1 S/Warner trans. $2600 takes pair. 516-668-3565.

25' STEIGERCRAFT 1985, Yamaha 200 hp O/B. Very clean. $16,500. 201-261-6670.

SUZUKI®

SUMMER SPECIALS! 2-200 hp. Special prices on all V6s in stock. New 2-yr. limited warranty. JENSEN MARINE* 516-226-9739.

JUST REDUCED! Must sell now. 1985 Sea Craft 23' Sceptre, w/1985 Evinrude 235. Used 1986 only. Custom canvas, VHF, digital depth finder & more. $23,000. GOLDSMITH'S BOAT SHOP, Main Rd., Southold, 516-765-1600.

1982 SEA SPRITE 18' BowRider w/1984 Evinrude 150 hp. $6996. 288-1980.

GRADY WHITE 1984 22' Seafarer Walkaround, 185 hp & 15 hp Johnson O/Bs, 110 hrs. Custom canvas, SW washdown, dual batt., standard VHF, Lowrance X-15 recorder, Raytheon 550 Loran C. Top cond. None better. $22,500. After 5PM: 516-421-9401.

1977 GRADY WHITE 20' 4" center console, Hatteras model, twin 70 hp Johnsons. Twin axle trailer, Horizon VHF, Si-Tex HE32, AM/FM cassette deck. Outriggers, downriggers, 2 anchors. Custom canvas. Many other extras. Excl. cond. $9200. Days: 718-776-4800. Eves/Wkds: 718-463-1419.

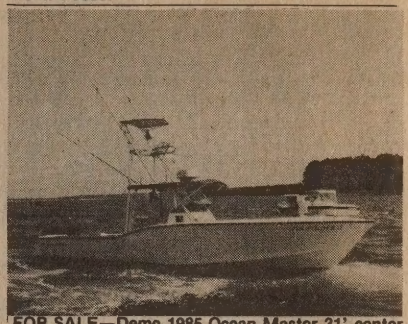
YAMAHA

YEAR END Clearance on 1987 engines 2 hp - 225 hp in stock. Below wholesale prices. BAYVILLE MARINE, 516-628-8686.

SUZUKI OUTBOARDS. First w/oil injection. 2-200 hp. LEE MARINE, Sayville. 516-567-3313.

BARGAIN: 23' Mako 115 Merc., sprayhood, digital depth. Excl. $5000. Days M-F: 212-973-6125. Eves: 516-541-8989.

1986 PRIVATEER C/C, 1983 70 hp Johnson. Complete Pkg. Must sell. $9700. For details, call: 718-474-5883.



FOR SALE—Demo 1985 Ocean Master 31' center console, twin 200 Mercs. Very low hrs. Complete electronics, incl. Vigil radar-dash mounted, Rupp outriggers; 310 gal. fuel. Rhodes tower w/sunshade, dual driving stations, bow mounted fighting chair. Many, Many extras. Priced to sell. Full encl. & spray hood—not shown. DOC'S BOAT SALES INC., East Greenwich, RI 02818; 401-884-0580.

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1984 TROLLER 14' Fiberglass w/1986 Johnson 20 hp & 1987 Cox trailer. $2799. 288-1980.

1983 MAKO 20' Center Console, 1984 EZ Loader trailer, 150 Evinrude. Electronics, spray boot, folding top, dual batt., power trim & tilt, power winch. Many extras. Very low hrs. $15,000. Moving; must sell. 718-761-0496.

22' SISU Bass Boat, twin 70 hp Johnsons. Brand new Demo. After 6PM: 516-728-3797.

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MFG Fiberglass 12' rowboat w/1987 Johnson 6 hp & Cox trailer. $1775. 288-1980.

1982 27' BAYLINER 260 Volvo I/O, color sonar, Loran, VHF, CB, stereo, 110 dockside, stand-up head, tabs. Swim platform; much new; many extras. 331-5574.

Continued On Next Page

1986 GRADY WHITE 24' Offshore, 225 Evinrude, VHF, Hydraulic steering, SW Washdown, fresh water, less than 70 hrs. $24,500. 516-242-1886.

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1984 Privateer 18' Closed Bow, 1984 Johnson 60 hp-$6950
1985 Leftover Privateer 18' Bay Prowler FWC 130 hp BMW-$9900
1979 Privateer Roamer 20' 2" center console w/ new Johnson 110 hp-$8735
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1985 21' 6" Privateer center console, 140 hp loop Johnson w/Johnson kicker, T-top, pulpit, r/hs & outriggers, Loran, VHF, graph D/F, sprayhood coolers, etc. Warranty. Inquire. Details: 718-327-3088

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1973 Marquis Caribbean 18' 9", 1973 115 hp Johnson-$3995
1987 23' Pro Line W/A cuddy, 225 hp Yamaha w/9.9 Yamaha kicker, custom hardtop, pulpit, hyd. steering, outriggers, livewell/washdown, color video, Loran, VHF, stereo, etc. Must sell. Inquire. Details: 718-327-3088.
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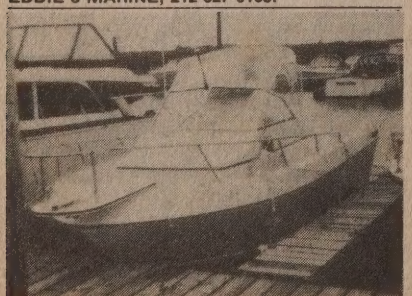

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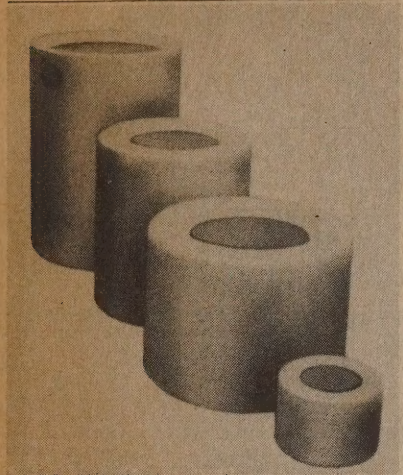

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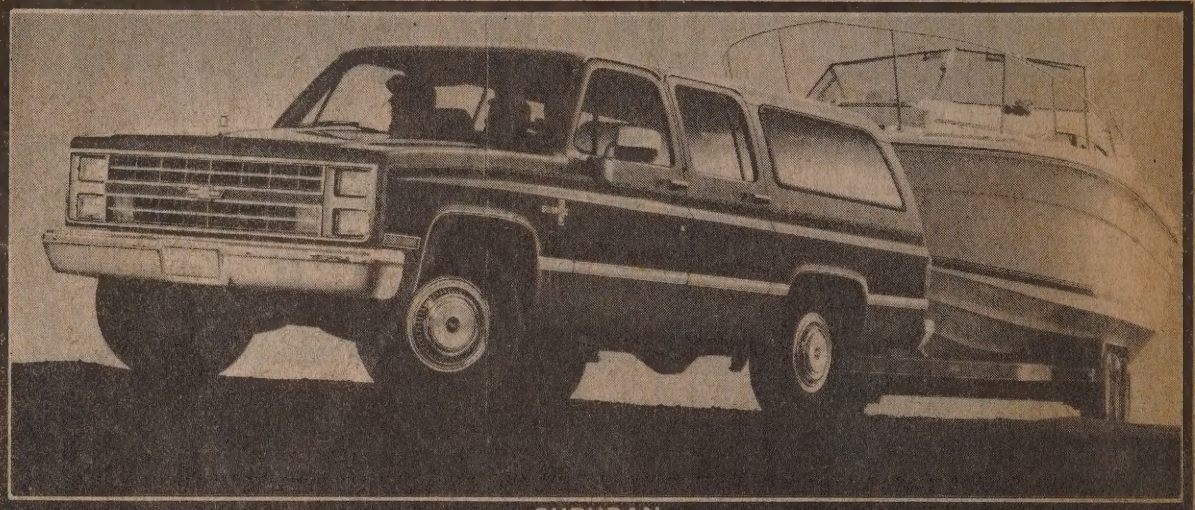

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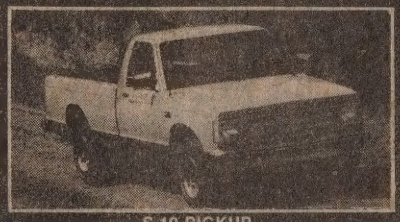

S-10 PICKUP

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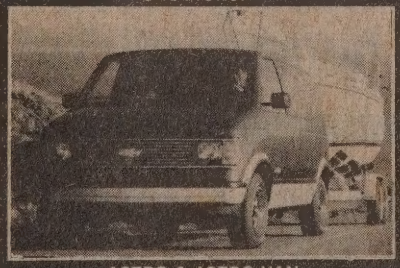
S-10 BLAZER



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